

123 ESSAYS

123 篇文章

by

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INTRODUCTION

The forty-one students of the Translation Class 1501 (2015-2019), College of Foreign Languages, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province, China wrote these essays during the period September-December 2016. I did some editing. We have collected and presented these essays as a way of remembering where we were, what we were thinking, and what we dreamed of at that time.

Dr. K

前言

本书收录了来自陕西师范大学外国语学院翻译1501班的41位同学在2016年9月至12月所写的文章。我加以编辑校对，谨以此铭记彼时的身所处，心所向，梦所愿。

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ESSAYS



黄钰
HUANG YU
HELEN

I'm Helen. I was born on 8 March 1996, Women's Day. I was born in Yongren County, Yi Autonomous Prefecture, Chuxiong, Yunnan Province. It is a small remote county town, which lies on the border of Yunnan and Sichuan provinces. In 2014, I graduated from the No. 1 Senior High School of Yongren. I lived there until I came to Xi'an to go to college.

I have confidence and want to experience different things. I love English and I think I can do better. I want to be a graduate student at Beijing Foreign Studies University or Shanghai International Studies University after two years. Obviously, to study abroad is the best choice for foreign language learners, but for me and for my parents, it isn't practical. If I have enough money and time, I will have a chance to study abroad. But now if I finish graduate student education, I will be a white-collar worker in the future, doing translation work.

NEW YEAR PRESENT

A bell rings. New Year is coming. Today is Spring Festival. Outside the window, Yang Lei sees someone watching fireworks with relatives. He is six years old. He is alone at home, because his mother, Yang Mei should work to earn more money. Even though he hopes his mother spends more time with him, he hasn't told to her.

Yang Mei must work until midnight. In order to give his mother a New Year's surprise gift, Yang Lei decides to cook a bowl of noodles for his mother. Coming into the kitchen, he thinks about what his mother does. He is too short to reach the cookers on the table, so he moves a small stool and stands on it so he can reach anything he wants. Thirty minutes late, he wants to take a bowl of steaming noodles to the dinner table. Then, he slips, and falls off the stool. What's worse, he spills the noodles to his hands. He cries and makes a mess.

Yang Mei arrives. "What happened?" She says.

"Sorry," Yang Lei says, and raises his red, blistered hands.

Yang Mei is shocked. "Lei, let's go to the hospital," She says.

The doctor bandages Yang Lei's hands and comforts him. Gradually, Yang Lei is calming down. "Lei, your hands will heal soon,"

"I'm a little man," Yang Lei says.

"Sweetie, I'm sorry, but what you did today was very dangerous. If you are hungry, you could eat some cookies. I will go home early" Yang Mei says.

"Mom, the noodles were for you. Happy New Year!" Yang Lei murmurs.

"Oh, dear, thank you. You are my best gift," Yang Mei says and holds him tight. Her eyes are full with tears.

Children are angels and the pride of their parents.

SUNFLOWER BLOOM

A steady drizzle falls against the windows from a leaden sky. Within is a warm and comfortable world. A boy and a girl sit by the window. Qiu Bo is a handsome boy, the forward of the school basketball team. Song Yahan is not very beautiful but cute. They are both students at Central University. Now Qiu Bo is looking at a girl eating with pleasure. "Yahan, I am so sorry but I have to tell you something," he says suddenly.

Song Yahan stops eating and quietly looks at him with big, bright eyes.

"Sorry, I said I will spend National Day with you, but something has come up and I have to go home. So..." His cool face is like a calm lake.

Although Song Yahan is unhappy, she nods her head without a word.

The next day, Qiu Bo goes to the train station by himself. Song Yahan doesn't know when her boyfriend left.

The first day of National Day, Song Yahan wakes up in the early morning, and does not know what she to do during the next few days. Qiu Bo has not contacted her. Song Yahan has a feeling of loss as happy memories spring to mind. The first day she came to Central University as a freshman with her parents. They walked through the school gates. Knowing not what to do and where to go, and at the same time, a tall handsome man came and said, "Hello, I'm a volunteer here. What can I do for you?"

Song Yahan looked at him. She was so nervous that a blush came into her cheeks, "Hi! I...I am...uh...freshman. I have no idea what to do and where to go,"

"OK, I will help you. Just follow me," he said.

A sweet, strange feeling came to Qiu Bo. How cute she was.

It took two hours to finish what a freshman should do, but Qiu Bo was happy, because he had learned the girl's name was Song Yahan, and he now had her telephone number.

From that day on, she often encountered him in the canteen, but they had never talked. Later, Song Yahan began military training,

and thought she wouldn't meet the boy again. Freshmen trained on the sports field. Next to the track was a basketball court. During the first training session, as Song Yahan and other students rested, a familiar figure in the basketball court came into view. It was that boy! He was playing basketball. Song Yahan was excited. She felt like a gentle breeze was blowing.

On each of the following days, the best thing for her was that she could see him playing basketball every day.

On the last day of training, however Song Yahan was absent-minded and upset, because he did not appear. At eight PM, Song Yahan received a text message, "Song Yahan, you left something important at the library. Please come to the second floor and find a boy with a basketball,"

Song Yahan felt puzzled but went to the library. When she found the boy, she was nervous, because he was the volunteer. He gestured for her to sit by him. When she sat down, he gave her an envelope and left. She opened and read it. When she finished, she realized that tears had formed in her eyes.

"Why I am so stupid? What can I do?" she mumbled and left the library.

"So, can I take care of you in the future?" a pleasing voice sounded when Song Yahan walked out the library. "Uh...I do not know. But...uh...but, it may be OK," she said.

They both smiled.

"OK. Let me escort you back to your dormitory," he said.

All the way, they talked. From that day on, they did many things together. He took good care of her.

Thinking about this, Song Yahan is sad. "Why it is different now? Maybe he found someone? Maybe...Maybe I should give him freedom. Yes, I will,"

In the next few days, Song Yahan stayed in the dorm room day and night.

On the early morning of the last day, Song Yahan received a phone call, "Yahan, I'm back. I'm in your dormitory. Please come down now. I want to tell you something," About thirty minutes later, Song Yahan arrives, because she wants to break up with him gracefully.

"I also want to say something," Song Yahan says.

"OK. You are first," Qiu Bo says.

"Uh...you have changed. Maybe I should respect your choice. Do you want freedom?" Song Yahan says.

Qiu Bo smiles and says, "I do not want to answer your question. I..."

Song Yahan says with anger, "Why? Why do not you want to answer my question? Why?"

"Yahan, can I finish my speech?" Qiu Bo says, and stretches out his left hand to grab her right hand, but she retreats two steps, ready to leave. "No, no, no..." she shouts in tears.

In the next second, Qiu Bo puts his arms round her and says, "Yahan, I miss you so much. I know you are mad at me. But I never thought I would break up with you. So, please listen to me. OK?"

Song Yahan nods.

"I went home these days and stayed with my parents. I had a basketball game before the holiday and hurt my fingers... Don't move,"

She squirms to get out of his hug.

He continues, "My father is a doctor, and he wanted me to go back to have an operation. I didn't want you to worry about me, so I didn't tell you. Please forgive me,"

Song Yahan says, "It's my fault. Let me look at your finger," She takes his right hand, which is in a bandage. She looks at it with falling tears.

"Don't cry. I'm fine. I like your smile. It is like a sunflower. It gives me power. I will stay with you to the end of time,"

They look at each other, and smile... just like blooming sunflowers.

THE TORCH FESTIVAL

I am from Chuxiong Yi Autonomous Prefecture Yunnan Province. I am Yi. I can only speak a few words Yi. The Torch Festival is the most important Yi festival. This summer vacation, it was time to celebrate on the twenty-fourth day of the sixth lunar month. There were two ways to celebrate. One was in a public place held by the local government. Another was by ourselves at home. My parents combined the ways this year. Because of the festival, my parents had three days off. Following our plan, we celebrated at home in the first day. We cooked various delicious food. Village is lit torch and walked around, which is a rite to worship deities. After dinner, I fell in a sleep. The next day, I put on special cloth, called Yixiu. They are famous for the handicraft and wonderful patterns. Then we drove to the ancient town. There were many people there. It was an exciting experience. We walked around and enjoyed snacks, especially special Yi food. At dark, it was the time to hold the ceremony. In the center, two big basins with wood were on fire and torch lit both sides of the street burned. When a cheerful song began, people gathered around the fire baskets and hand in hand, dancing until midnight. What a wonderful day!



傅亦琳
FU YILIN
ALEXIS

I was born on 12 October 1996 in Hangzhou, which is celebrated for its scenic beauty and developed city public facilities. It is normally regarded as the most livable city in China. I lived in Hangzhou for eighteen years since I was born.

The High School Attached to Zhejiang University is my senior middle school. Teachers and other school personnel have certain goals for students' growth and maturity. There are lots of activities and various courses to help students broaden their minds and enhance their spiritual ethos.

My hopes are to fulfill my expectations of completing my undergraduate degree, to overcome my fears and concerns, to do well academically, and to succeed in post-graduate entrance examinations. My hopes are to retain the knowledge I have learned and refresh what has been taught earlier so that I may utilize it for my career future.

My dream job is working as a book editor, just like my favorite

cousin. This requires knowledge of word processing, rhetoric, and patience in proofreading. When I was a little child, I learned to appreciate beauty and desirability in literature and hoped one day I would be a part of it.

TWELVE YEARS LATER

She took a deep breath and then smiled at everyone around the table.

The house has been painted for Spring Festival because Wu Lu's mother was used to holding a big party on the fifth day of the first lunar month. Guests included relatives, close friends, and loyal staff in the family company.

Everyone was here, except her father.

After all the guests had entered the house, they went into the dining room and sat around a large round table.

For years, Wu Lu would smile, holding a glass high when her mother made a toast.

"Let's drink to wealth, health, and happiness," Wu Qing would say. "Cheers!"

Her company's profits had risen 20 percent this year. Her beauty still shone like a diamond. Her daughter, the eighteen-year-old Wu Lu, had just been admitted to an excellent university. Wu Qing was proud of her.

Wu Qing looked around the room, recalling the sting of Lin Li's betrayal.

Twelve years ago, her husband abandoned her and their daughter for another woman. The pain of abandonment by your spouse, slowly, ripped her apart and burned the pieces.

"It will go," Wu Qing told herself, "I'm sure of it. An accident can't ruin my life," Now as she thought of him, indifference rather than pain came to her mind.

Suddenly, the phone rang. It was from the provincial hospital.

She hung up and beckoned to Wu Lu.

"He died, just ten minutes ago," she said to her daughter, without further explanation.

Wu Lu understood.

She looked at her mother, and discovered they were both crying.

A DANGEROUS BALANCE

After the first ring Wu Xin changes his mind and knows what he should say. Holding his cell phone, he says, "Hi Dad! Please prepare an internship in Mom's company for Chen Jing next year. Yeah, that girl's my girlfriend,"

The idea had been sitting in the back of Wu's mind for a while now, but it isn't for a week after he'd told Chen Jing that he'd help her find a good job when the time was right.

...

Having been refused by many human recourse managers, Chen Jing has spent much time going from company to company trying to impress the interviewers.

Today is a little different from the previous days because her phone just rings and the call is coming from a big company. A good offer is waiting for her reply.

Of course, she knows who actually provides that offer.

...

From Wu Xin's perspective, he never thought he would pay much attention to a girl who he had just met. For the rest of the evening he only pretended to be confident and energetic in the way he normally was. He's probably thought that the whole class reception had just been prepared for their meeting. They definitely had fallen for each other. After three days, their relationship was determined!

...

Though she must know that there's nobody else but Wu Xin who would do it for her, Chen Jing was persisted and for three days, called everyone in her contact list asking if they've found her an internship. She knew it was futile.

She just didn't want to face reality.

On the evening of the third day Chen Jing pulls out her phone and dials Wu Xin.

"You arranged this, didn't you?" Chen Jing says.

Before she even started dialing, she knew what would happen that night.

...

"She must be very mad at me," he guesses.

It is more clear when Chen Jing takes the seat across from him on the bus and turns to her side so she isn't looking at him.

"Cute gesture," Wu Xin tells himself.

Having been with Chen Jing for months, Wu Xin knows she got little sleep before the deadline. Between traveling with their class and writing essays, she must be nearing her breaking point.

That is obvious when though Wu Xin is watching, Chen Jing slowly falls asleep. She is still tense, arms crossed over her chest and eyebrows pulled down. But after about half an hour Wu Xin sees her body start to slide slowly back as her body relaxes.

Wu Xin is behind her instantly, careful not to shake the seat or touch her. He lets her move backwards until Chen Jing's head is against his chest. Though she seems deep asleep, one of her eyes opens at the gentle contact. Chen Jing blinks when she sees Wu Xin and then closes her eyes again, falling deeply into sleep.

Wu Xin can't help smiling for the trust and forgiveness behind her subconscious reaction.

...

For all those who insist on telling him otherwise, Wu Xin has always thought that he is an expressive person and it's with a moment of internal struggle that he keeps his reaction down to a small smile.

"Yes, I did," Wu Xin says, "It seems that you've got the notification,"

It's late at night. Nobody awakes on campus except Chen Jing and Wu Xin. She notices that the front entrance, which would normally be full of people, is now so empty. The only other people there apart from the two of them is the door guard. Only his head is visible as he watches from behind the door leading to the security room.

"Jing, why are you so angry?" he asks, in a steady voice, "I know you've been irritable for a while. I want to help you. That's what I should do, right?"

"No. You can't humiliate me like that and then depict yourself as a saintly lamp-like innocent. Help is different from manipulation,"

Wu Xin's expression goes cold, and defiance appears in his eyes that Chen Jing has seen when she argued with him during the past four years.

He squeezes her shoulders.

"It's not my fault," he says.

He never knows why she is mad, but the accusation in her stare is unmistakable.

"We are done," Chen Jing says in a hurry.

"I'm sorry," Wu Xin says again. "I'm sorry. Please..,"

"I know your trick," Chen Jing says. "Try again. You will embarrass yourself. It never ever works on me. The only reason it seems effective is because I can persuade myself to forgive you and it hasn't been as disgusting this time. You don't understand me at all, do you?"

"We are done," she says again, with quietness. "I have had enough of this,"

"I don't understand," he admits to her and himself, utterly confused about what had just happened. "What do you need?"

"Your respect," Chen Jing answers without hesitation. "But I've known that you won't give it to me. I hoped you would change. You are accustomed to manipulating others, even when you love. Maybe that's what you really are,"

"What are you talking about?" he tilts his head to one side. "I just want to help you. You need an internship and my Mom's company can provide an internship. "

"You didn't want to help me. You want to manipulate me," Chen Jing says, staring at Wu Xin. "Everything you do is for establishing your authority and keeping me in control. You want my obedience. Not love,"

"I do want your obedience. That's how love works," Wu Xin says, without confusion. "Love means obedience,"

"Sometimes I really feel bad for you," Chen Jing sighs. "No, they're totally different things,"

"I don't see the difference," he says. "I love you, so now I will apologize for whatever you're mad at. Do you get the point?"

"Yes," she says. "You claim a reward,"

"Shoot. That's my girl," he said, nodding to her. "When people love, they want to be loved. What is there to be ashamed of confessing your emotional needs? I want your obedience because that means you love me,"

Chen Jing doesn't say anything until Wu Xin reaches for her hand and she avoids that.

"I've been trying to keep a balance between us," she says, in a steady voice. "between love and reality. I thought maybe one day you would know yourself better and make yourself better, which seems totally wrong. Do I love you? Yes, I do. I'm still the girl who falls in love with you at the first sight. But my love can't change you. Your issues have ruined the balance,"

"I'm sorry for everything," she says. "I'm sorry for my inability to save you. I'm sorry for your sincere ignorance. I'm sorry for what you suffer but you don't understand,"

"We are done," she says to herself. "We are done,"

A LONG DAY

My journey began with getting lost to save time, my mom made an appointment with a taxi driver who was a freshman in his field. He was confused about the complicated road condition of the way to the international airport. When I finally arrived at the airport in time, I rejoiced in the luck.

After two hours of long-distance flight, I felt exhausted especially thinking of my thirty kg of luggage. It's a long distance between Xi'an Xianyang International Airport to Shaanxi Normal University. I found that I had already started missing my hometown Hangzho. Maybe when people face challenges they long for something familiar or trustworthy. I chose the airport limousine as vehicle school. Before getting to school, I reflected on what should I do first when I arrived at dormitory.

It was a long day. From morning to afternoon, the only thing I ate was awful airplane food. So you can imagine the picture that I had of standing by Shida Road, smelling the appetizing aroma of various foods.

I pushed the draw-bar box along the road with my sore arms. Finally, I got to my dormitory and was not surprised that it had been buried in dust. I was the first one who came back so naturally I took responsibility to clean up our room. Mopping the floor, wiping the table, and opening the switch. I spent two hours doing these things.

All of experience happened on the day of returning school after Spring Festival. It's the longest day in my life.



王霏欣

WANG PEIXIN
EMMA

I was born on the sixteenth day of the third lunar month in 1997 in Wang Family Village. It is a beautiful village near a river, located in Deqing County, in the north of Zhejiang Province. When I was eleven, my family moved to Yuyue Town, where I attended middle school. We moved back to the village last year because my grandmother wanted to. I attended Deqing Senior High School in 2012. It was the first time that I had lived at school. On weekends, I went home by bus with my classmates.

After graduation from Shaanxi Normal University, I will take the postgraduate admission examination. I hope to study in Shanghai or Hangzhou because they are near my hometown. I also hope that I can study abroad and experience different cultures. I'm not sure what job I will apply for. I will try as many interesting things as possible. I want to travel widely. However, all these things need much effort. If I

don't study hard now, I won't get a chance and then I will have to accept a boring job. I want to become a person, who is hardworking and never give up. I believe that if I persist in study, I can achieve something.

COINCIDENCE

Iang Ran was queuing up to check out. He held a basket full of health care products and fruits. The supermarket was crowded with customers during Spring Festival. Neighbors and relatives exchanged words of greeting and good wishes when they met. Children wore brand new clothes and demanded toys. The whole town was brimming with the New Year cheer. What a harmonious scene!

His mobile phone vibrated in his pocket. It was his mother.

"Hello. Mom. Shen Xi and I will visit you in half an hour or so," he said.

"Your grandpa has...a car accident..." she faltered, sad and sorrowful.

He clenched his teeth, trying to hold back grief. His face turned pale. People talked and laughed. Those sounds seemed to come from a distant place. He felt faint and dizzy as if the sky and the earth were spinning. Leaving the shopping basket, he tottered unsteadily the exit. Passers-by gave looks of curiosity and sympathy.

"I have to tell you something," he said. His wife Shen Xi was sitting in the living room, looking worried. "Grandpa has an accident and is in hospital. The driver was a drunk young man. We have to go to the hospital immediately,"

Shen Xi began trembling when she heard "accident".

"I have to tell you something, too," she said.

"We can talk on the way hospital. Hurry up!" he shouted.

"Listen, this is very important. I must tell you now. My nephew was drunk this morning. And...and he knocked down an old man," she said, desperately.

A LEGLESS BIRD

The phone rang, showing a new message which read, "Call me at 0591-24939xxx after nine o'clock. I'm on duty tonight,"

On hearing the sound, Lin Yu glanced at the screen. It was a message from her boyfriend Zhou Yimin! She was beside herself with joy and couldn't concentrate on her book.

Zhou and Lin had been a couple for half a year. Lin was admitted to a college while Zhou chose to serve in the army and then went to military academy. As a newcomer, Zhou was severely restricted and was not allowed to use a mobile phone. So, this young couple didn't have many chances to chat with each other. Lin was used to it now. At the beginning, she missed Zhou and saw him in her dream several times. He was much thinner, darker, and more mature. Every time she woke up from that kind of dream, how she wished it was true. But she could not even contact him at that time. Until Zhou borrowed a phone to text her a message of his address and office phone number could Lin chat with him sometimes. (When Zhou was on duty, he could use the telephone in the office). Most of the time, she wrote letters. In fact, Lin preferred to writing letters. When she put the letter into the postbox, romantic notions filled her heart. She felt like they were mournful lovers in a novel. But today, he would inform her of his free time so that they could have a phone call without being noticed by others.

It was 8:50. Lin was too excited to do anything else. When the time suggested on the mobile phone turned to 9:00, she dialed the number immediately.

"Hello, this is the electric power station office. What can I do for you?" a young soldier asked.

"This is not his voice," she wondered. Unable to wait for this young soldier to finish his greeting, she said, "Excuse me! Do you know Zhou Yinmin? I am wondering if he will be at the office tonight,"

"Yes. He will be here several minutes later," he said.

"Thank you very much," she said, and felt disappointed. However, this feeling didn't last for long because Zhou called back soon.

"Hello!" Zhou said. It was him this time. The first part of their dialogue was to exchange news. "I have been in this rural area for several weeks, cut out from the outside world. Scenic beauty though is really charming and serene. I hope that I can vacation here with you," he said gladly.

Lin was utterly delighted and said, "I have been admitted by student council, where I meet a lot of people. Sometimes it is troublesome, I'm not sure whether should I stay or not,"

After that, they talked about interesting memories they had in common. They had known each other since middle school, so they were good friends before they became a couple.

Zhou and Lin went to the same high school. It would take them about an hour to go home by bus. Every Friday afternoon, Lin, Zhou, and some other friends walked to the bus station together. Zhou was always chivalrous, considerate, and reliable. He was used to taking care of others, which impressed Lin very much. If Lin had any trouble, the first person that came her mind was Zhou Yimin. However, she sensed something wrong these days. Zhou had changed, so did she. People did change. As time went by, their life might become totally different and they might have little in common. She was not sure whether this was beneficial to their relationship. She really missed those old days when they could meet for several times every day.

"Hello? Are you listening?" Zhou asked.

"Yes, you are talking about... a teacher in middle school," she said.

"And I did not like her classes so I always did others things, such as reading magazines, chatting with others and sleeping. Though she was angry at that, she cannot deal with me. Isn't that interesting?" he continued.

When they did not have many things to talk about, Zhou liked to talk about such things to impress Lin. This made Lin feel tired and bored. It was difficult to pretend to be interested. Feeling sorry and regretful, Lin found an excuse and hung up. She lay on the bed, thinking. They both needed time to calm down and reflect of their relationship.

In fact, Lin had fallen in love with Zhou several years earlier while Zhou had gone through many girlfriends during that time.

However, Lin Yu considered that she was different from those girlfriends.

During the summer vacation, Zhou invited Lin to go for a walk in Ta Mountain Forest Park after supper. They walked along the road leading to the mountain. Children were playing, picking little flowers, and lying on the grass. Adults were walking slowly, chatting, and laughing. Life here was relaxing. Walking side by side, backs of their hands touched each other. Slowly, Zhou clutched her hands and crossed her fingers with his. How could Zhou not know Lin had a special feeling for him? Every time she looked at him, he could sense it clearly. And he definitely had the same feeling. He hadn't shown his feelings before. Both had been waiting for this chance for so long. Sitting on a bench together, they appreciated a magnificent sunset. The setting sun kindled the sky, which was as red as fire. Lin was deeply moved by the sunset and Zhou's company.

After considering for several weeks, Lin chose to forgive Zhou's arrogance. After all, they had much good memories. She wanted to tell Zhou all her thoughts, so they could have a discussion and restore their relationship.

At nine o'clock, she wanted to talk with Zhou immediately! Though he didn't send her message tonight, anyway, she wanted to try.

"Hello?" said Zhou Yinmin. He was on duty that night.

"Hello!" said Lin Yu. She was wondering how to begin that topic when another telephone rang.

"Wait a minute. Maybe it's my supervisor," he explained.

She waited and listened to his talking. It seemed that he is talking with a young lady. She had heard of that name before. The owner of this name had an affair with Zhou Yimin in high school. Lin Yu hung up quickly.

Once a crack appeared, their relationship could not be restored. Lin couldn't help wondering what she meant to him. Maybe talking with her was just a way of Zhou to kill time. Why would he ask her to be his girlfriend? Zhou borrowed another mobile phone and tried to text her every day. After countless apologies, Lin agreed to talk with him, but she was insecure about their relationship. They had fewer topics than ever.

Lin and Zhou were totally different people. He was realistic.

She was idealistic. He thought she was young and naive. She thought he was shallow and arrogant. He was social and outgoing. She was introverted and taciturn. They loved each other, but how about many years could they stay together? On the other hand, Zhou did not understand Lin, and he was still immersed in making up. He believed that happiness was the most important thing. Since Lin was agreed to talk with him, they should not break up, especially when he was so boring in the army. He needed a considerate girlfriend, who could talk with him and comfort him. He considered this a kind of love, too. He was always attractive among young ladies. After these years, he could get along with them well but he may not love them sincerely. While Lin had already made the decision to bring an end to this relationship. If they didn't go for a walk at dusk, they would still be close friends. However, it was too late to repent.

It was a sunny day. Lin Yu took a seat near the window, beginning to write a letter, which might be the last one for them.

"I'm wondering if we should break up. You must be surprised that I come up with this suggestion suddenly. Please calm down and read my letter. It seems that you don't want to take the responsibility of a boyfriend. I understand what you're going through. It's very inconvenient for you to contact me. What I really care is your undivided loyalty. Have you watched the movie *Days of Being Wild*? You and the protagonist are similar in character. You will never settle down, like a bird without legs. Although I'm your girlfriend, you treat me the way you treat any other girls you get acquainted. I thought I was different. However, I have to face reality now. I liked you, I'm liking you, and I will like you. Unfortunately, we must stop here. If you want to contact me, you can call me. See you two years later. We will go to the airport together to pick you up,"

Lin Yu deleted the last few sentences after skimming through the letter. Then, she paused for a long while and tore up the letter. She began to write a new one. The second letter was finished quickly, which read, "We'd better break up and I wish you happiness," Lin Yu put the letter into the postbox. "What a coward I am! I failed him when he most needed a friend. Procrastinating may bring more suffering. We'd better break up," she thought. Roadside trees were turning yellow. Autumn was on its way. Lin Yu walked down the road, lonely and heart-broken.

She was trying to keep calm but tears rolled down her cheek uncontrollably.

A RAINY DAY

On that rainy and terrible afternoon, I met a really brave boy, overcoming all the difficulties to save me. This story happened in my childhood. My brother was very naughty at that time. So were his friends. They had all kinds of ideas and were willing to put them into practice. Though those older children did not like the little ones, I was allowed to go with them that time. We decided to go to an abandoned bungalow to cook an egg. Sometimes it was difficult to understand what on earth kids were thinking. For example, why did we go far away to cook an egg?

Unfortunately, we were caught in a shower on the way home. All the children began to run, leaving me alone in an unfamiliar place. With the rain becoming much heavier, the path turned very muddy and I could not walk on it any more. I was stuck in vegetable plots, with a lot of worms worming their way on the vegetables around me. I was scared to death and burst into tears immediately. My face was wet with rain and tears. There was nobody here except me. Suddenly, a boy came. It was my older brother who came back to save me! I began to cry even louder. He furled his umbrella and navigated his way through the vegetables. At last, we went home together and got wet through. Grandma helped us take a shower and we went to watch TV together. It still rained heavily outside but I felt much better. I really appreciated it that my older brother helped me in that desperate and lonely situation. He was as brave as a warrior with a "sword" in his hand and saved a frightened little girl.



王凯丽
WANG KAILI
EMILY

My Chinese name is Wang Kaili, and my English name is Emily. I was born 26 September 1996 in Yiwu, Zhejiang Province. I attended senior and middle school there.

As for my future hopes, I just have an outline. I am not sure how things will work in the future. There are possibilities, but things can also go against my wishes. And I may change my plans to adapt to the reality, but there is no doubt that I would like to get further education. I want to be a graduate student at a good university. I hope to be an exchange student for one year or more in the future in America or other countries if conditions permit. I will probably take TOEFL in 2017.

I hope to have a good command of English as well as Chinese. I am learning French and I wish I can improve it. I found many English words are borrowed from French, and this helps me understand English better. My hopes in the near future include getting a good mark on the TEM-4 Exam, reading more books, and broadening my horizons.

It is exactly midnight.

Fireworks pierce the darkness, exploding and cracking, lighting up the sky, making it as bright as daytime. The whole world was drowned in happiness.

"New Year is here, and I will put on my new clothes in a few hours," squealed Ye Xian, jumping on the sofa.

"Happy New Year, my dear daughter! Here is a red packet with our blessings," said her mother.

"It is time for bed. We must your grandparents tomorrow," her father yawned.

"And maybe my cousin Rongyu will be at Grandma's as well. I haven't seen him for three years," said Ye Xian, her face glowing.

We had so memorable days, but jokes we made and tricks we played together are all behind us. We are not innocent children now. And you might already forget me, Cousin Rongyu. Ye Xian sighed without saying anything.

"Good night, my dear daughter," said the parents.

Their voice pull her back to the reality.

"Ring-ring-ring," broke the tranquility.

"Who would call us at midnight on Spring Festive?" said Ye Xian.

She snatched up the receiver and said, "Hello! This is Ye Xian,"

An unfamiliar voice said, "Central Hospital here. Sorry to disturb you, but it's urgent. Are you Rongyu's relative?"

At these words, Yexian was overshadowed by an uneasy sense of foreboding. What had happened to Cousin Rongyu? It was Spring Festival. How could something terrible befall him?"

"Yes, he is my cousin. What is it?" she said hoarsely.

"I am sorry to inform you he was injured in a car accident. But don't worry, he has regained consciousness. But he is in low spirits, he needs company. He only remembered your number,"

YOUNG LOVE

Scene 1

When Wanwan was walking by the Centre History museum, an idea struck her that queued for a ticket and took a tour. "Why not?" she thought, "Museums are a concentration of a city's culture and history, and I have not been able to appreciate those marvelous treasures from ancient China. "

She entered the Han Dynasty display hall. Fortunately, it was not crowded. The hall was a little gloomy with only several lights focused on the display cabinets, but these marvelous works which survived the vicissitudes of time were still shining. She could not help exclaiming when the tiled-ends with exquisite patterns and auspicious words greeted her. She was impressed by the ingenious mechanics of a bronze lamp in the shape of a wild-goose with a fish in its mouth. Smoke from the lamp passed through the fish, up through the long neck of the goose, and down into the vessel's water-filled body, where it dissolved, thus keeping the room free of smoke. Despite her genuine appreciation, she had to continue her visit.

Suddenly, she bumped into another patron.

"I am sorry!" they both said simultaneously.

They smiled to each other but spoke no more words, spellbound by the beauty of a pair of gilded belt hooks.

"It's beautiful, right?" Wanwan said, after a moment.

"Absolutely. This pair of hooks can be integrated into one. The decorative patterns fit each other. By the way, have we met before?" he asked.

They looked into each other's eyes, puzzled.

"I don't know, but it seems you are an old friend. Strange, huh?" Wanwan said.

"You know, maybe there are mysterious links between people, science has not yet explained,"

She smiled again, "What do you think are the characters

engraved on the belt hooks?"

"They are seal scripts. I don't know the exact characters, but I'm sure they had special meaning to the owners,"

Scene 2

Water drips down along the ribs of the umbrella. She collapsed the umbrella and shook it before entered the library. She shivered when some drops of water penetrated her shoes and then her socks. What a cold day!

Wanwan was a freshman majoring in Chinese Literature at Central University. During the past two months, she had had a good taste of life in the university. She loved the library, which contained thousands of books that told the stories of the past and present.

As she walked through the shelves, a book aroused her interest. As she was reaching for it, someone standing behind her took it.

"Hi! It's you! What a coincidence!" a familiar voice said.

She turned, surprised to see the man she had met in the history museum.

"So, you also attend this university?" she said.

"Yes. I'm a sophomore majoring in history. I am Chengcheng. How may I address you?"

"Wanwan. I major in Chinese Literature,"

"Your name is beautiful, Wanwan" He said.

A little blush arose on Wanwan's face as she managed, "Thank you,"

"Do you want it as well?" Chengcheng said, gesturing to the book in his hand.

"Yeah, but it's OK. You read it first,"

"Actually, I have an e-version of this book, so it's fine if you take it,"

Wanwan took the book, touching the cover and spine, and looking at Chengcheng gratefully.

"Wanwan, it's time for lunch. Would you like to come eat with me?"

She smiled and nodded.

They huddled under the same umbrella, talking and laughing and gradually disappearing among the crowd.

Scene 3

It was the end of the semester. Wanwan sat at the window, holding a book in her hand, reading. It was the book Chengcheng had given her. She was about to finish it. It was a love story set in the Han Dynasty:

There was a newly wedded couple. The wife was beautiful and the husband was a brave general. They loved each other, while the husband took for granted. Then, one day war was waged and the general was sent to the borderline to defend his country. Before leaving, his wife gave him a pair of delicate engraved belt hooks. The husband looked at the hooks and touched them carefully, feeling regret that he had not cherished their time. He left for years. When he returned, he found that his wife had died three years earlier. A servant told him that his wife often leaned against the door, sitting out, waiting for his glorious return. He wailed over his wife's shrine, put the pair of hooks into his wife's tomb, and recalled their past young love for the rest of his days.

"What a love story!" Wanwan sighed after finishing it.

The couple never forgot each other, but they were unfortunate. Their love for each other made their loving in each other unbearable.

She walked out of the dormitory and found Chengcheng was waiting for her.

"I just finished the book. I feel sad about the end," she said, looking at him, thinking, and then slipping into silence.

"What will become of us in the future?" she said after a bit.

He said nothing but took her hand. With his right index finger in her palm, wrote: never forget each other!

"Once you asked me about the characters engraved on the hooks in the museum, and I said I didn't know. Actually, I knew. I think the sentence is a special oath between people who love each other. These are the exact words I want to breathe to the girl I love. Although the hooks' owner suffered misfortune, I do not think their

love is a failure, at least they love each other. No matter how far we go together, I will never forget you, Wanwan," he said.

His words were like a breeze, mild and warm, rushing into her heart.

Young love is pure and beautiful. The future is unpredictable, but what if it can stand the test of time?

THE DEATH OF XIAOHUA

It was totally dark outside. The splashing sound of rain mingled with the barking of dogs in the distance and the air was replete with the scent of fresh grass. Xiaohua lay under the shelter licking her two new-born babies. She was satisfied, though tired.

Xiaohua, with her ivory white fur and beige patterns, was the most beautiful and elegant cat in Shaannxi Normal University and was a favourite of students. Her sister, Dahua, was fat and cute. There were other cats named Mango who was naughty and naughty and Blacky who was clingy.

It seemed as if the whole world was drowned in tranquillity, and Xiaohua was happily lying with her babies, her friends around. Spring was on the way and flowers were wakened and were getting themselves refreshed. They wished tomorrow would be a fine day and would be able to walk in the shiny sun to celebrate the new-born and bless their sweethearts. They were talking and laughing without noticing danger was approaching.

When the cats were about to going to bed, three ghosts approached. Suddenly, a scream of misery and horror pierced the air. Mango was attacked by the dogs who had long been their enemies. These three dogs were too lazy to feed themselves and too mean to share the land with others. They were homeless and bandits. Now they were back.

"We want our land back, so if you leave now, we won't hurt you," one of dog said shamelessly.

"Nonsense! It is our land, our home and our paradise," Blacky yowled.

Another dog behind suddenly launched an attack and rushed at Xiaohua. It poured outside, but the barking still penetrated the night. One of the dogs tried to rob a baby from Xiaohua. She spared no effort to fight against the dog, but she was so weak that she could only shield her babies with her own body. Two of the dogs approached her and she was cornered soon. She closed her eyes, not knowing what would happen next.

In a split second, Dahua pounced on the two dogs with all her strength. They turned around and jointly attacked Dahua, who fought with them fiercely, and the noise gradually died down.

Dahua lay on the cold, wet ground, silent. And she never woke again and can never see the beautiful blossoms and play with butterflies.

We never saw Dahua again.



吕谦惠
LÜ QIANHUI
OLIVIA

My first name is Qianhui. Because of my family's Christian belief, my name suggests modest and meek in order to be blessed by God. My family name, Lü, is an ancient family name that dates to the ancient Xia Dynasty. I was born on 12 August 1997. My birthday is during the summer vacation so I can spend lots of time having fun with my friends and family.

I have lived in Xi'an since I was six years old but I am not a native. I was born in a rural area in the southwest of Shaanxi province. The education there was so poor that my parents decided to send me to Xi'an for a better education. I live with my aunt who is kind and takes good care of me. I attended the senior middle school affiliated with Shaanxi Normal University. I have so many precious memories of that school—its beautiful scenery, its energetic atmosphere, and friendships.

I dreamed of being a good translator and traveler. I want to explore the outside world. I will try to learn several foreign languages and translate literature. I look forward to chatting with various people

from different places.

I imagined a perfect future. Now, I should work hard to realize my dream.

MY HERO

WHui was anxious. An hour ago, an emergency call from her mother shocked her. "Come see your grandpa. He is in hospital now,"

Sitting beside the hospital bed, she held his wrinkled hands tightly. He sleeps lightly, having an intravenous drip. She stares at his thin, weak body and his pale face. Her grandpa, Wen Zhong, was a brave, talented general. He strictly trained his soldiers. Enemies were afraid of him. Soldiers respected him as the hero.

He was a kind grandpa. While parents were busy working, Grandpa took good care of her. She remembered his delicious dishes, his interesting stories, his patient teaching. As she grew up, he became frailer. Then he got cancer. Some relatives came to visit. They asked the doctor the conservative treatment about his disease in a low voice. He seemed to be in pain. He opened his eyes slowly. Wen Hui quickly gave him some water. He wanted to say something but he couldn't speak. His eyes were filled with tears. She told him interesting things, trying to ease his pain. He smiled and nodded his head, pretending to be strong.

"Don't worry, Grandpa. I am here with you. You can heroically overcome everything,"

He blinked in response, staring at her firmly.

The doctor came to check. Wen Hui had to leave. Looking at the sky on this cold December, she realized Spring Festival was near. She wanted to celebrate and do lots of things with Grandpa. But will he still be waiting for her?

"God bless my hero!" she prayed sincerely.

Life is so delicate and unpredictable. We can't stop accidents happening. The only thing we can do is to treasure the time being with people we love.

THE DISPARITY BETWEEN HE AND SHE

As a sophomore at Central University, Yuan Xu seemed to have a long time to enjoy wonderful youth before graduating. He was from a rich family whose parents gave him little pressure. He was extroverted, often attending various activities. A photography competition interested him so he planned to participate. To find more materials and draw inspiration from nature he decided to hike on campus where there were many beautiful views such as a grove of trees, a lovely lake, lovely resting areas and so on.

Suddenly, a slender figure came into his view. He was very attracted, this first time to see Meng Yao. On a wooden bench, wearing a long white dress, bathed in sunlight, she read a book intently and quietly. A light breeze blew her hair gently, which Yuan Xu considered the most beautiful scenery in his palpitating heart. At the very first sight he was in love. He secretly took a photo of her.

After asking others, he learned she was a sophomore majoring in English. One afternoon, he attended her class as an auditor. He sat beside her the whole afternoon. He talked a lot with Meng Yao. He appreciated her fluent English and sweet voice. He asked about her hobbies and told her of his own interests, the fun places he had travelled and his other fantastic experiences.

She was generally shy with strangers but she soon was attracted by Yuan Xu's vivid, humorous descriptions. "He is handsome, easygoing, and vivacious," she thought.

Later, when Yuan Xu had time, he attended Meng Yao's classes. Still later, he accompanied her to meals. They chatted endlessly. Meng Yao invited Yuan Xu to join an English club. People from different countries had parties and talked in English. Yuan Xu agreed happily although he majored in literature. To surprise Meng Yao, he wrote some poems in Chinese. To show his love, he translated them into English with the help of some friends in the club.

One night at the club, he presented them to Meng Yao with the photo he had taken of her several weeks earlier. He was brave enough to show his love at the club. Although the poems had some grammatical errors, Meng Yao was moved to tears. Like many happy

conclusions, they fell in love.

Every morning Yuan Xu, waited for Meng Yao outside her dormitory. Every night he escorted her back. When there was no class, they usually watched a movie, walked along the street, or enjoy tasted food in a cozy cafe. Sometimes he took her to his friends' parties and had a good time with her. Sometimes, she cheered him in his basketball game. He did not want to let her down and he trained strictly. Day after day, he spent most of his time with her, skipping classes to be with her.

Meanwhile, Meng Yao spent a lot of time dressing on. She cared more about Yuan Xu because she wanted to show him her best inside. When they studied together, they often put homework aside and chatted. This bought a sense of happiness and freedom.

Time flew, they had been together for a year. When the final exams drew near, they began to realize the intensive assignments they had to finish. It was hard for them to spend all their time together. Meng Yao concentrated on her English courses and her coming TOEFL examination. Yuan Xu concentrated on his literature exams.

Meng Yao had not insisted on learning English. Instead, she wasted much time dating and in entertainment. She worried about her study and Yuan Xu couldn't help her at all. She asked the best student in her class for help. Yun Li was always first on each exam. He was from a poor rural family. He was good at speaking and listening. Meng Yao got up early every day to read English books with him. Yun Li past her some listening skills and encouraged her to speak English louder. He had an amazing memory and could remember almost every point the teacher made. He helped Meng Yao to correct mistakes. They went to library together to study. Time went by, and this was their habit. Gradually, Yun Li regarded Meng Yao as friendly and warm. He asked her to be his girlfriend but she refused. From then on, he never mentioned it, regarding her as a normal friend.

Meng Yao and Yuan Xu stayed apart for a long time. There was less communication between them and the relationship between them became stiff and embarrassing. The first quarrel soon broke out.

"Meng Yao, we are not as close and happy as we used to be. Why do you treat me like a stranger?"

"Yuan Xu, it is not only my fault. We were naïve to do

everything without consideration. It is time for us to change and choose the right way,"

"What I did was all for you. Don't you remember? How can you be so selfish to deny our relationship?" Yuan Xu shouted.

"Sorry, but the final exam and TOEFL exam are important. It is the best opportunity for me to go aboard. I cannot lose it,"

"You even did not tell me about that! Well...well, you always thinking more about yourself,"

"I am sorry," Meng Yao said sadly.

"Don't say it. Never regret what you have done..."

Finally, Meng Yao and Yuan Xu broke up.

After Meng Yao finished her examinations, she had confidence to go abroad to face a new life. Yun Li, also got good results and decided to start postgraduate courses. As a Yuan Xu, depending on his rich parents, worked in a famous company as a company manager.

The disparities result in a different life. They were lovers but now they are strangers. They promised to be together forever but now nobody keeps it. Everything has changed but life is continuing. Everyone has his or her own life and goal. The only thing they remember is let bygones be bygones. Tomorrow is another day.

A WONDERFUL REUNION

It was really a valuable time for me to reunite with my bosom friends, Li Chi and Sang Chen, whom I was keeping a close friendship with all the time. Attending different colleges in different places, we could only connect with each other on the Internet or by phones. Fortunately, we made a great appointment during summer vacation. The day we met was nice and warm. Having not seen each other for a long time, we were too excited to say anything, instead, we just stared at each other then suddenly burst into laughter. The first thing we did was having a cozy chat. We found a coffee shop designed in an original style, talking about our new college life, new courses, and plans for future. It seemed that everyone had built new goals. Li Chi majored in biology. Her vivid description about various plants totally aroused my curiosity. Her favorite activity is observing the growth of different plants and noting them down. She showed us photos of a big garden in her beautiful campus. Sang Chen was interested in designing and painting. She brought some design papers, which were very exquisite. And I was looking forward to becoming a translator. We all had a good start, which encouraged us to work hard and face challenges bravely.

After that, we went to watch a film about teenagers. The course of growth was filled with both joys and sorrows. However, we would never stop our steps to grow up. After the movie, it was time to say goodbye. At the end of reunion, we took photos to treasure this unforgettable memory. Someday, these photos may remind me of our first wonderful reunion, impressing me a lot.

It was my first time to consider my life and dreams seriously. It was also the most important time for us to promote friendship. I had a dream that one day all of us could achieve our dreams and remain our precious friendship forever.



刘佳惠

LIU JIAHUI
SAGE

My name is Liu Jiahui. My given name is from my father who wanted me to be very kind and wise. I am homesick because of my name. When my name is called backwards, it is *hui jia liu* 'it is time to return home'.

I was born on 2nd June 1996, in Xi'an. My mother told me that it was a hot day when I was born, so she thought I would be out-going. In fact, she was wrong. I don't like to express my feelings in public, which is inappropriate sometimes.

I am a Xi'an native. The reason why I chose Shaanxi Normal University is that it is convenient for me to go home. My high school years were at Xi'an No. 1 Middle School, where I met my best friend, learned a lot about life, and qualified to go to the college.

When I entered college, I began to have hopes for the future. I want to be a teacher, for there are more holidays than other jobs. During holidays, I will stay home to accompany my parents or take them traveling. Their happiness and good health are my desires. I have many hopes and plans for the future. They need my effort and I will make my best effort to realize them.

RESPONSIBILITY

Spring Festival is a joyful occasion, as people immerse themselves in the gaiety of family reunion. However, this was not the case for Song Gang, a doctor.

Spring Festival in 2015, Song's wife, Li Yin, had prepared everything to greet relatives. It also happened to be their son's fifth birthday. It was eight PM. All the relatives came. The boy, Song Ying, was excited.

Suddenly, the wife's phone beeped, just like knocking at everyone's heart.

"I am sorry I cannot come back now. There was an accident and the injured have been sent to our hospital. I must stay here," Song Gang said. He knew Li would feel lost, upset, and angry, but it was his responsibility. He added, "Give your phone to our son. I want to say something,"

Li did so.

"Happy birthday, my little boy. You are one year older, and should be stronger and braver," Song Gang said.

"Yes, Father, I promise I will be. Hmm, but won't you come back today? I haven't seen you for a week," Song Ying said.

"I'm sorry. I need to do something great, like Ironman and Spiderman. I promise I'll be back after I do it well," Song Gang replied.

Song Ying was upset that he could not see his father on this special day. He wanted to say more, but his father ended the call unexpectedly. He felt remorseful for not saying "Goodbye" to his father.

That night, nothing happened.

On the second day, the boy got up early. Li Yin prepared a meal and took it to the hospital with their son.

In the office, Song Gang was asleep in his chair.

ON GOES LIFE

Central University, the best university in China, is best-known for mathematics. Every student in this university is proud. Besides, as everyone in China knows, only several top students in every administrative region can access this famous college.

Song Song is a freshman at this school and majors in English. Song Song is from a rich family. Her father named her Song because he loved her and hoped that she would have a life like a beautiful song.

The First Meeting

Song Song is very excited at the first public course class in her college life, with the mathematics class together.

When she talks to her classmates excitedly, a boy passes by. A pleasant odor drifts into Song Song's nostrils. She turns her head, glances and has a crazy thought that the boy is her fated Mr. Right. She tries her best to change her seat beside the boy's. She says to the boy, "Hello, I accidentally left my pens in my dormitory. Can you lend me a pen?"

The boy smiles, nods, and gives her a pen. She sees light sparkling in his eyes where she drawn in and enjoy. She has never had such feelings before.

Pursuit

She learns that the boy, Li Ming, majors in math and is an excellent student. She admires him for his achievements. She also knows that he was born in a poor, remote village. Soon, her roommates find her little secret and tell her that she must be brave and choose her love. They persuade, "It is a regret not to have an intense love in college life,"

Song Song thinks, "True,"

Song Song gets Li Ming's phone number from Li's classmate and often texts him "Good morning, Li Ming" or "Good afternoon Li Ming, do not forget to have dinner," She also buys breakfast for Li Ming because she knows Li Ming often stays up late studying.

Girlfriend and Boyfriend

At first, Li Ming is nervous and does not know what to do because the most important thing in his mind is learning. Only hard working can

pull him and his family from poverty. Besides, "Who will like a poor guy who is from a remote village?" Li Ming thinks.

Although he is excellent in many aspects, he lacks confidence. When he was in high school, his classmates were generally from poor families. He was proud of being the first one in his village to enter such a good university. However, university students are all well-dressed, well educated, and seem to know much about the world. Therefore, for Li Ming, only from learning can he get satisfaction.

Nobody can resist a lovely girl's courtship. He grows accustomed to Song Song's behavior. He seems willing to be Song Song's boyfriend. One day, Li Ming asks Song Song, "Would you like to be my girlfriend?"

How can Song Song resist this? She has hoped to hear it from Li Ming for a long time. Song Song is the happiest girl in the world.

"I am his girlfriend, so he can be with me frequently," she supposes. She often drags him out of his dormitory to accompany her shopping, going to the cinema and so on. Therefore, Li Ming has less time to preview and review his school work.

Quarrel

Li Ming cares about his study, and, his marks. He often persuades Song Song to work hard. Song Song does not listen. She believes that life is full of having fun, romance, and other activities. This really differs from Li Ming's ideas. A quarrel happens.

Li Ming tells Song Song, "I have been worried these days. You must study hard, or we will break up. Your behavior has negatively affected me and my learning,"

Song Song is astonished. She wants to cry, and tears spin in her eyes. She replies, "If you think so, I have nothing to say. I have my own life, I cannot change my life from your simple words,"

Then she shouts, "LET'S BREAK UP,"

Song Song turns and tears flow from her eyes. She runs away. She doesn't know what to do. She is heartbroken. She promises she will never see Li Ming again. However, the next day, when she goes downstairs, she sees Li Ming standing at the entrance of her dormitory building. There is excitement in her heart. She pretends that she will ignore him. "NEVER" she tells her heart. Then she passes him quickly.

Li Ming follows and says, "My dear, I was wrong. I just want to persuade you to study hard. Don't be angry. I promise I will never do this again! Please forgive and believe in me,"

In the following days, Li Ming does lots of things for Song Song such as buying breakfast, lunch, and dinner, collecting water for her, and escorting her to class. He even sometimes skips his classes,"

He didn't skip classes before, but now he does such things for me. He must love me very much and will do anything for me," Song Song thinks.

One day, Song Song says, "If you promise not to annoy me anymore, I will forgive you,"

Li Ming nods and promises.

Although they are together again, there is a deep scar in Song Song's heart.

Graduation, Call, and Quarrel

Time races by. Song Song and Li Ming will end their 4-year college life.

Song Song passes her TEM-4, but fails TEM-8. She doesn't focus on learning, and doesn't practice her English skills. Sometimes, she can't express her meaning properly to foreigners.

Li Ming passes CET-4 as required to graduate. Li Ming wants to be a math teacher and has participated in the teaching-qualification exam several times. He fails, because in these 4 years, he skips classes to make money or accompany Song Song. He doesn't focus on his learning except when exams are coming. He becomes the one he despised.

Song Song comes to the classroom where Li Ming has class. She sees Li Ming on the phone and decides not to interrupt him.

Li Ming says, "OK, Father, I will come back to teach young children when I graduate ...,"

Song Song doesn't know what to say. Several days earlier, she told her parents happily that she had a boyfriend and would marry him after graduating. She still recalls her father's words, "Daughter, you are my only child who I have cherished for all these years. I just want to see you often in my remaining life. Consider your marriage and that boy. He is a guy from remote area,"

Song Song sees Li Ming end his call and pretends she knows nothing. She asks him calmly, "What about our future? Will you stay with me in this city? Will you marry me?"

Li Ming replies, "I have thought about us these days. Sorry, Song Song. I must go back to my hometown, to support my family. I can't selfishly stay here and ignore my parents. If you want, we can..,"

Song Song cuts in, "So, you will abandon me," She shouts, "You know my parents won't let me follow you to such a poor village!"

"I know. Of course, I know. You are the little princess in your family. But I am not. I am the only support of my family, I need to support them. I..,"

Song Song laughs and says, "OK. I get your point. You mean you will break up with me and go back. OK, I agree. It is disgusting for me to follow you to that poor village. SO DISGUSTING," Then she takes a taxi and goes to her home.

She needs time to adjust and to think about her future.

Change

That night, Song Song doesn't sleep. She stares at the ceiling, without tears. She recalls the days Li Ming and she were really happy, and also the day when they had their first quarrel. She knows she has wasted 4 years and she needs a chance to change.

The second day, she tells her parents that she broke up and why. Her father is a rich, wise man. He says, "Little girl, don't worry. It's just a small period of your life. You have a brighter future. You can walk on a broad, long way. You can go abroad. You are an English major. You can have many more opportunities in other countries. Go find your own way. You can take TOEFL or IELTS,"

Song Song replies, "Thanks, my dear father. I will take these exams and go abroad for a new life,"

New Life

=Song Song is hard-working. She succeeds. She gets a high TOEFL score and receives offers from famous universities in America. She knows what the right way is.

On the airplane to her university for further learning, she stares through the window. "Life always goes on," she thinks and smiles.

A BLOODY LESSON

It is better to get everything done earlier without hurrying and procrastinating, otherwise, maybe you can't make your work done well and even get a bloody lesson, like me.

It is a rule for students to get to their classrooms and stay in their seats before 2:15 PM to preview the textbooks and the classes begin at 2:30 PM on time. I still remember the day, a heavily rainy day, when I was a freshman in senior high school, and I was taught a lesson profoundly that day. When I ended the morning's classes that day and got home, I was too tired and sleepy, so I decided to take a nap but I forgot to set an alarm. Unfortunately, my parents were not at home. When I suddenly woke, it was 2:10 PM. And there was a 15-minute ride from my home to school. Therefore, I had no choice but to ride my electric-bicycle instead.

On my way to school, there was a big crossroad. When I got there, it still had six seconds to switch to the red light for the traffic light. At that time, I decided to rush in the last six seconds; otherwise, I must be late because of waiting another four minutes. On the middle of the road, a car was about to start, and then my electric-bike got caught by the car's number-plate, which made my bike leaned and me got out of the bike. I fell. My school uniform was dirty with mud and my leg was hurt with blood. When I got to school, my classmates had already begun their classes, which meant I was late.

This was really a bloody lesson. From then on, I would rather get everything done earlier than hurry to do before the deadline.



张文克
ZHANG WENKE
CHLOE

My name is Zhang Wenke and my English name is Chloe. Although this name sounds a bit masculine, I still like it because it connotes of it is that my parents hope that when I face all difficulties, I can be independent, courageous, rational, and positive to deal with them all.

I was born in Yichuan County, in central China's Henan Province on 2 August 1997. Most of my childhood was in Louyang City, with my mother and my aunt's family. When I was seven, my mother and I moved to Guilin City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region with my father. I graduated from senior middle school in Guilin. In the beginning, I missed my hometown, but when I attended college in Xi'an, I missed Guilin very much. Both places have wonderful memories in my heart.

Talking about my future, to be honest, I have no idea about what I will be. I like travel and films. I want to be a journalist or work in media but now my major is translation. I should work hard on English and become a qualified translator. Maybe ten years later I can translate Chinese news or films to foreigners.

All stores are closed with a note saying that they will have a few days break. Few cars are on the street. Cities are more quiet than usual.

"Why are so few people on the street?" Li Min asked his mother.

"Tomorrow is Spring Festival. People are back in their hometowns with their family. During Spring Festival, Chinese try to go home for family feasts. This is why we are going to your grandpa's home for a dinner," Li Min's mother, Wang Zhen, answers.

When Li Min and his parents arrive at Grandpa's home, the house is crowded and full of an aroma of delicious food. Li Min's aunts dressed in aprons and rolling up their sleeves help Grandma slice tomatoes, stir the meat, make dumplings, and cook various dishes. Li Min's uncles stand in a circle with drinks, talking about work, politics, and sports. Li Min's cousins chase each other or watch TV. When the relatives notice Li Min and his parents have arrived, relatives give them a warm welcome.

"Do you know the sex of your baby? How soon the baby will be born?" Li Min's aunt Li Juan asked Wang Zhen

"I don't know. Next week it will be born," Wang Zhen said.

"You are going to be a big brother. Take care of your mum," Li Juan said, patting Li Min's shoulder.

After the meal, all family members around together to watch the New Year's Gala. Wang Zhen frowns, clenches her teeth, touches her belly, and says "My belly is aching, I think I'm in labor!"

This family is suddenly flurried and nervous. Li Min's father doesn't know what to do. He holds Wang Zhen's hand tightly. Aunt Li Juan calls 120 immediately.

At 24:00, a baby girl's cry, New Year comes. All family members are happy!

POWER OF LOVE

Having graduated from high school, Li Mengmeng enrolls by a famous university. She thinks without heavy stress, she can do whatever she wants, including a romantic campus love. She takes part in two interesting clubs. One is the Student Union. She wants to apply what she has learned in class and knows what she should pay attention to in her study. Another is Keeping Fit Club because she is plump. In high school, many classmates laughed at her plump body, which made her determine to lose weight and obtain an hourglass figure.

In the beginning, Student Union work was heavy, which makes her sleep little. Luckily, she has a kind upperclassman who helps her with problems. He Xiao is handsome and good at playing basketball. When he plays basketball, many girls cheer for him. Because of that many boys envy him. How perfect he is! Time passes and Li Mengmeng falls in love with He Xiao, but doesn't dare tell him. She just delivers water during breaks time no matter how bad the weather is. When he is injured, she buys medicine for him. Li Mengmeng tries her best to care He Xiao.

After a month, "I like you. I want to be your girlfriend," Li Mengmeng mustered the courage to say.

"Oh, I am moved, but Liu Peiling has taken my heart. She has curly black hair dusting her shoulders. She has bangs that are not too long, which can show her perfectly arched eyebrows with a round face with no discernible cheekbones, she is a cheer leader. I am sorry than I can't to be your boyfriend. But you are a lovely girl. You can find your lover," He Xiao said.

"Oh! What a pity! Ha, ha, ha, OK, I am OK. Are we still friend, right?" Li Mengmeng said.

"Yeah, that is OK. We are still friend," He Xiao said.

Li Mengmeng understands there is no hope with her plump body to get He Xiao's heart. So, Li Mengmeng lets He Xiao go and pays more attention to losing weight. In the Keep Fit Club, she meets Wen Wu. Both are plump and have the same hobbies, they are become very close friends, and talk about everything. They confide how

embarrassed when they have exercise lessons.

"My plump body makes me lack confidence in front of a crowd," Li Mengmeng said.

"I absolutely understand you," Wen Wu said.

"So, we should change this situation! Let us run on the playground every day!" Wen Wu said.

"This idea is great! Let's do it tomorrow!" Li Mengmeng said.

The first few days, they keep to the plan and lose a few pounds. But after a few days,

"My legs are painful! I am gone have a break for few days," Li Mengmeng said.

"I will buy medicine and massage your legs," Wen Wu said.

Li Mengmeng is moved. About one week to rest, they begin running. They insist on exercising but their weight doesn't budge. Li Mengmeng feels upset because losing a few pounds lost don't make much different in her shape. She is still looks plump and wants to give up.

"Oh, I work hard every day, but I still plump. I don't want to do it any more, I am exhausted and I want to quit," Li Mengmeng complained.

"Just a few days, and you want to quit. I don't think complaining can help you to lose weight. You should do more exercise and eat less high calorie food. If you give up now, you'll never become slim and He Xiao will never like you. Think when you can wear beautiful small size clothes and stand in a crowd confidently. Think how people will admire your petite figure," Wen Wu said.

"What you said dawns on me. I feel better now, I shouldn't complain to you. I should keep going!" Li Mengmeng clenched her fists and said.

Three months later, Li Mengmeng and Wen Wu are both slim! Both have lost about ten kg.

"Unbelievable! You look so slim and charming! How did you do that?" Li Mengmeng's roommate Liu Zhu asked.

"Thank you! I have kept running for three months. You can take part in my club to exercise to get in shape," Li Mengmeng answered.

Li Mengmeng is now charming and Wen Wu is handsome. When He Xiao sees Li Mengmeng slim and more beautiful than Liu

Peiling, he shows interests in her. He tells his friends to help him chase her.

He Xiao and his friends place lots of candles forming a big heart shape in front of the dormitory. He Xiao holds a bunch of flowers, kneeling on the ground waiting for Li Mengmeng.

"What a romantic scene!" surrounded people whispered.

When Li Mengmeng returns to the dormitory, many people surrounded them

"My heart is with you. Please be my girlfriend and I will be always love you," He Xiao said.

"You surprised me and I am a little bit moved. But I can't be your girlfriend," Li Mengmeng said without any hesitation.

"Why?" He Xiao asked.

"Although, you are handsome, you are a playboy who sees more beautiful girls will forget the former one," Li Mengmeng answered.

Those surrounding them are shocked by the rejection. They can't believe what is happening and make a collective sign of disappointment.

He Xiao blushes and feels very embarrassed and full of regret.

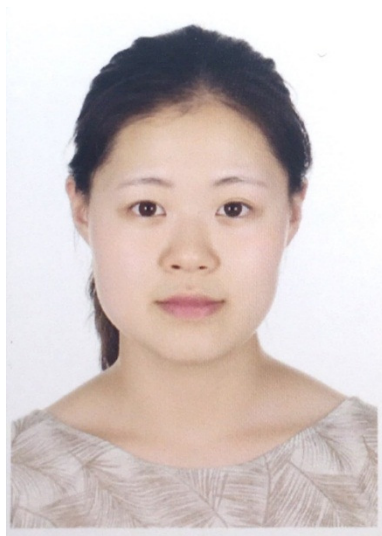
Li Mengmeng is confident and becomes positive, energetic, active, and friendly. Wen Wu accompanies her to exercise. Both appreciate each other. They know without the other's encouragement, they may lose their success. Li Mengmeng also realizes that Wen Wu is a good man but she is still too shy to ask him to be her boyfriend.

One day, Wen Wu looked at Li Mengmeng's eyes and said. "I hope we can run together forever. Are you willing to accompany me?"

"Yes! I will," Li Mengeng smiled sweetly and said.

ORAL ENGLISH IS IMPORTANT

I did a part time job in a cinema. I thought my manager was not very friendly. Last Friday, I finished my work and went to her office to do some paper work. My manger complained about my work time was not stable. She indicated that I should resign. I felt very embarrassed. I did not want to quit. I was very quiet. Suddenly, a telephone rang. The manger answered it. It was a foreigner with a strong Indian accent. The manger had a poor English and could not handle this problem. She then let me talk with this foreigner, I asked how I could help. After talked with him a few minutes and I understood he just wanted to see an English film. Then I told him the cinema's location, and the film's timetables. Later, I felt my manger was kinder to me. Now, I do realize that no matter who you are and what you do, oral English is very important.



纪璐
JI LU
IVY

My Chinese name is Ji Lu and my English name is Ivy. I was born on 9 September 1997 which day was the eighth day of the eighth lunar. My father regards "8899" as good luck.

I was born in Huai'an City, Jiangsu Province where I lived until attending college. Even if Huai'an lacks famous enterprises, rapid development of the economy, or significant achievements, it's still my favorite place.

I lived in a courtyard at first where children always romped about. With an increase in income, we moved to a downtown housing estate. My middle school shares the same district with my home so I ride a bike to school. However, my senior high school was far away consequently, my parents rented a nearby room to avoid me wasting my time on transportation to and from school.

I wanted to be an interior designer, but did not insist. I major in translation and want to do it well. I hope to be a person with real ability and stand on my own feet in the future.

REUNION DINNER

Our parents are old now. This year we must return home to discuss dividing the family property and living apart. I have already told your third sister. She leaves for home tomorrow, said a man on the phone.

It's a cold Spring Festival.

"Dad, Mom, we are back!" said Lao Li's two sons and a daughter.

"Oh! You haven't come home for years! It's cold outside! Come in quickly!" said Lao Li.

"We miss you so much! We decided to come back to have a reunion dinner with you and give you a surprise. Only you two are at home. Our relatives haven't come yet, have they?" said Li Sufen, Lao Li's only daughter.

"I told them not to. Your mother and I are too old to entertain. Don't talk about it! Come have dinner! I'm happy tonight," said Lao Li.

Li Guozhu, Lao Li's oldest son, winks at Su Fen.

Li Sufen clears her throat and begins, "Dad, Mom, you know, Guo Dong had twins and they are expensive to care for. Brother's factory is in bad management. As for myself, I should repay my house loan. We want..."

"Dad, we don't want to take your money. We just worry about your health. We hope we can get the money we should have if you..." said Li Guodong.

"You came home only for money! You..." Lao Li shouts and faints.

"Dad! Call the Emergency Center at once!" they screech.

No expected this accident. They are silent, standing outside the emergency room.

"We made a will long ago. Each of you will get some money," said the mother.

Gazing at the rescue room, they wait for a whole night. Finally, the operation lights dim. The doctor walks out and shakes his head.

"Dad, really sorry, we..." they burst into tears.

Life is full of surprises. Feng Qi had bumped into Su Muyan at the gate of Central University. They were embarrassed and smiled at each other. They did not know love had come silently.

At Central University, students had a placement test before the term began. After getting rid of the heavy high school work, students were interested in clubs and recreational activities. Consequently, many students failed this exam while those who did well were divided to a top class.

Feng Qi, was from a rich family, had an excellent living environment and was handsome and generous. He was also clever and had good grades in study.

Su Muyan, on the other hand, was from a small rural town. Her family strained to pay her tuition. She did part-time jobs to earn money. A boy born with a silver spoon in his mouth thus met with a poor girl. What will happen?

Su Muyan studied hard and was helpful and patient. Her desk mate, Hu Zhou, often asked her to help solve his study difficulties. Gradually, her other classmates all liked to ask her advice. Every time Feng Qi noticed her explaining problems, he thought she was kind to help others. He formed a high opinion of her.

He begins to pay more attention to Su Muyan. When he learnt that the school photography club had asked Su Muyan to take photos of the basketball match, he registered it. Su Muyan was absolutely attracted to Feng Qi. She greeted him, and they began to chat happily, Hu Zhou was jealous.

After the match, Feng Qi and Su Muyan grew closer. They usually went to the library to talk about study and sometimes they had dinner and walked back to school together. The relationship between them became murky.

Christmas approached and students were excited about a Christmas party. According to the rules, every class had to perform. The monitor, Shen Chenghuo, suggested that they have

a chorus. On Christmas evening, they won first and cheered in joy. Feng Qi pulled Su Muyan out of the hall. They walked along the road until finally Feng Qi said, "Please be my girlfriend,"

She was shocked, shy, and silent. "I will give you time to consider. Don't be nervous," Feng Qi held her hands and comforted.

Su Muyan was quite moved and she said, "I agree,"

Love was beautiful in the beginning. However, with time, conflicts grew between them. Feng Qi had no problems with money so he did not understand why Su Muyan spent almost all her free time doing part-time jobs. They thus had little time to be together on weekends. Su Muyan was also not satisfied with Feng Qi's attitude that he spent his parents' money instead of earning his own money. A cold war ensued.

When Feng Qi was drinking alone, he met Qin Ni'an, a cheerleader for the school.

She admired him so long so she asked, "Why are you so angry?"

After hearing the reasons, a plan appeared in her mind. She advised Feng Qi to pretend to like to make Su Muyan jealous.

"If she really loves you, she will find her real feeling," she said.

Feng Qi drunkenly agreed.

Qin Ni'an then took some photos of Feng Qi and herself in secret and sent them to Su Muyan, who was sad and shocked. She decided to find Feng Qi to prove whether he betrayed her or not. Unexpectedly, she saw Feng Qi and Qin Ni'an walking together, holding hands. She returned to her classroom and cried quietly.

Hu Zhou consoled her but was unsure if he would tell Feng Qi the truth. He wondered if Su Muyan could accept his confession.

Su Muyan was in a bad mood. Finally, Hu Zhou found Feng Qi, told him Su Muyan were mistaken about the photos of Qin Ni'an and him, and persuaded him to explain it to her. Feng Qi agreed.

They became reconciled soon. However, due to the

different family circumstances they were from, they often argued.

"We quarrel again," said Su Muyan.

Hu Zhou comforted her patiently. Gradually they became bosom friends.

When Su Muyan was doing a part-time job, Zheng Siqu, the director of the school photography club, asked her to take some photos for her. Su Muyan had no way but to call Hu Zhou to ask him for help.

"Hello! Is here the photography club?" said Hu Zhou.

"Yes, what's the matter?" said Zheng Siqu. She fell in love at first sight of the boy.

"I am Su Muyan's friend. She is not free so I come here to help you take the photos," Hu Zhou answered politely.

After finishing the work, Zheng Siqu called her friend Liu Yun.

"I think I have been caught in love now. Do you know a boy called Hu Zhou?" asked Zheng Siqu.

"Oh, you'd better not. As far as know, Su Muyan and him are very close," said Liu Yun.

"Su Muyan goes together with Feng Qi now. How could she do this? I will expose her," Zheng Siqu said angrily.

She thought of an idea, and told Feng Qi's roommate, He Bi, that she saw Su Muyan and Hu Zhou together alone. As she wished, He Bi told Feng Qi at once.

"You are a pitiful creature, and the girl you love never loved you," Feng Qi mocked.

When Hu Zhou was in low spirits, Zheng Siqu accompanied him and expressed her affection.

Hu Zhou touched, but could not give up Su Muyan. "Sorry," he apologized.

After an exam, Su Muyan and Hu Zhou got the chance to study abroad. Feng Qi forced her to stay with him, enraging Su Muyan. She thought Feng Qi did not have to worry about his future because he had a rich family; however, she had to create her own future.

Finally, Feng Qi received a message. "Maybe breaking up is the best choice, I think. You have a good family environment,

you have a bright future even if you don't endeavor but I am different with you. I have a family to support. I don't only live for myself. Different classes, environments, backgrounds and so on doomed our different futures. Our unexpected love welcomes an expected consequence,"

"Goodbye,"

A CAR ACCIDENT

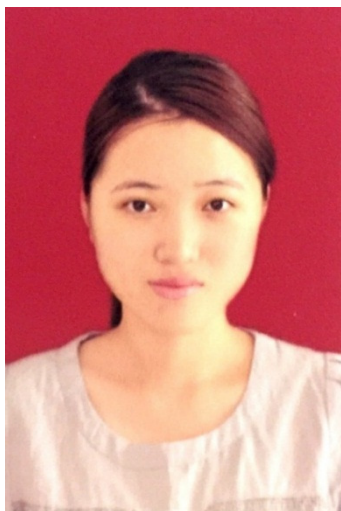
When I was eleven years old and in primary school, my father was in a traffic accident. This depressed my family for quite a long time.

One cold morning, I saw Grandmother making breakfast in the kitchen. She had tears over in her eyes. I asked her why but she said nothing. She asked me to have breakfast and go to school. At the same time, I also found that my parents were not at home. I was confused but I could do nothing. Before I left home, mother called me. "Your father had a car accident and he is on the emergency room," she said.

I cried all the way to school, I could not think about anything. My classmates asked, but I could say nothing. The whole week, I cried almost every day. Finally, I heard good news – no life threatening. They were the best words I have heard.

Grandmother and I went to the hospital to see Father at once. I was shocked when he did not recognize me. He looked at me like a stranger. I sobbed a long time. Many people comforted me which made me feel better.

A month later, Father had recovered completely. When he came back home, I felt like I had returned from another, sad world. I then knew the meaning of the expression: "Blood is thicker than water," Family members are always the most important in your life. You must love them, respect them, and care for them. You will then find everything is better.



文诗越
WEN SHIYUE
VIVIAN

My Chinese name is Wen Shiyue, and my English name is Vivian. I was born in a small town in northeast China on December eighteenth. I lived there for about fifteen years and I finished my primary school and middle school. Then I went to Phoenix City, which is near my hometown to attend senior high school.

For my future, I will attend graduate school to study translation, interpretation, and Chinese culture. It would be wonderful if I could be admitted into some good university in Beijing or Shanghai. I also dream of getting a PhD degree, maybe in a western country like America or Britain. It would be cool to be a professor or scholar at a university. In this way, I would have many opportunities to have a better understanding of western cultures and spread Chinese culture. Wisdom is desirable. Becoming a professor or scholar is a big challenge, demanding determination, hard-work, and good knowledge.

Dreams are beautiful, reality is harsh. Competition is everywhere. Now, what I need is excellent English.

A FRIGHTENING JOURNEY

After the final examination, Liu Sui rushed to the train station, eager to go back home and spend Spring Festival with her family. On the train, she met a middle-aged man named Chen Zhou from her hometown. They talked about her family, college, and her personal details. It was a delightful journey for Liu Sui.

When she got to her destination, it was already dark.

"It's late. Let me help you. I will take you to a safe place," suggested Chen Zhou.

Liu Sui trusted Chen, because they had had a good time on the train. Without hesitation, she followed Chen. Afterwards, she realized that something was wrong. The farther they walked, the fewer people they encountered on the road.

Suddenly, it occurred to Liu that Chen might not be what he seemed. She stopped, turned around and ran as fast as she could. Chen followed her. Unfortunately, Liu Sui tripped and fell. Chen was almost catching up with her. At this moment, a car stopped by Liu Sui, and a man walked out, asking her whether she needed help. Thanks to a passerby, Liu Sui was saved, Chen escaped, but her foot was injured. This kind passerby sent her to the local hospital. She lay on the bed, with tears in her eyes.

Several hours later, her relatives came to the hospital. They scolded her for her carelessness. They also comforted her. Her parents were scared and told her never to trust a stranger so easily.

Liu Sui wept. This had taught her a lesson. She promised her parents that she would be more careful in the future.

TO MY TEACHER, WITH LOVE

One autumn, as yellow leaves. Students stepped into Central University for the first time. Everyone was excited, looking forward to a new life on this beautiful campus.

Li Lei was a lonely boy. He grew up in a rich family and could get almost everything he wanted. Life was easy and boring. He spared no effort to screw it up, to attract others' attention.

He skipped his first class. The English teacher, Han Meimei was upset. Without hesitation, Miss Han told the monitor, Wu Feng to tell Li Lei to come to her office. Wu was a poor boy. The local government had offered him a chance to attend college. He was the top student at the university. Because his good grades and willingness to help others, he was very popular with girls. You Yu was typical.

Li Lei arrived at the office, prepared to be taught a lesson. To his surprise, without criticism and punishment, Miss Han spent the whole afternoon talking to him, heart to heart. It occurred to him that she was different from other teachers. His curiosity arose, and he was eager to know more about her. Afterwards, Li Lei did not skip English classes, nor being late. As time passed, this lonely boy fell in love with the teacher, a woman twenty years older.

Li Lei asked Miss Han to help him to improve his English. Miss Han was very glad to help him. They often stayed in a cafe near the school. Li Lei graduated from a foreign language high school, so he is very good at English. He can communicate with Miss Han in fluent English. In this way, he was getting closer and closer to her. One day, Li Lei told his secret to Miss Han. He said that he was stressed out for a long time and could not fall asleep until two or three in the morning. He was afraid that he had insomnia.

Due to the responsibility of a teacher, Miss Han were willing to help Li Lei. She knew a famous doctor who was professional with insomnia. She planned to bring Li Lei to see the doctor. Li Lei was glad to go there with her. The doctor said it would take about two months to cure him. From then on, Miss Han often drove Li Lei to the clinic. Li Lei enjoyed the ride with her very much. And after treatment, they often ate dinner together. No one was concerned about him like Miss

Han, which made Li Lei misunderstood. He thought maybe Miss Han had fallen in love with him, too. Obviously, it is not the truth.

You Yu was attracted to Wu, but he was not into her. You is a beauty, and had a nice body. No one would refuse if she asked. There seemed to be something wrong with Wu. He had a secret in the bottom of his heart which he never told anyone. He was crazy about math and chemistry, but chose to join an English poetry club. Although English class was only once a week, he insisted on learning English every day and tried to perform well in the English class. All these details showed that he loved English, and Miss Han.

To be near Miss Han, Wu often went to her office to ask questions. Many times, Wu asked Miss Han out for dinner together, but she was very clear about their relationship and made excuses to keep a distance.

Li Lei's birthday was coming and he asked Miss Han for a present.

Miss Han said, "Yes," and prepared a pen, as well as an award for his good performance.

All his classmates were invited to a birthday party. Everyone drank beer to celebrate, except Wu. When Li Lei passed him a beer, he refused and broke the glass.

Li Lei angrily hit Wu in the face, using all his strength. And then, he took out the pen given by Miss Han, to make Wu jealous and upset.

"I know you love Miss Han," Li Lei said "But so what? She does not like you. I am the one in her heart. You are nothing to her," said Li Lei.

Wu reddened with shame, and left the party. This is a ridiculous lie Li Lei made.

Wu was lying on the bed, and could not fall asleep. He hated Li Lei, a good for nothing who could get everything easily. He could not forgive Miss Han, either. How could she treat him like this? She should have loved him, as he loved her. Obviously, he had lost his mind. He wanted to hurt them both, so he was determined to report Li Lei and Han Meimei to the headmaster of the university. Only if their love is destroyed, can he find relief. Maybe this would be the best present that Li Lei has received.

The headmaster was shocked by what Wu said. He got extremely angry about this scandal. He was concerned about the reputation of the university and did not want this scandal known by the public. Unluckily, this whole thing was known by You Yu, the daughter of the headmaster. She spread it out on the whole campus. People all tried to find fault with Miss Han. They thought it is the woman teacher who is to blame. Sadly, she did not do anything wrong.

This love story has no happy ending. Miss Han is punished and fired by Central University. This accident becomes a blot on her whole life. Li Lei is seen as a freak and no one would like to talk with him. He has no choice but to transfer to another school. Wu can't continue to be the monitor, cause all classmates do not trust him anymore. He becomes a lonely boy, and no friend. You Yu does not like Wu like she used to. She realized that he is not as good as she imagined. She regrets what she did. In the end, there is no winner. Everyone is hurt deeply.

One afternoon, I watched an interesting video on Xinlang micro-blog, a Chinese famous social software. A group of foreigners from different countries were taking part in a Chinese competition, named Hanyuqiao. To my surprise, they were taking a listening test - a Chinese song *Shuangjiegun*. This is a very fast song with rap, and the singer Zhou Jielun is known for his mumbling. Though I am Chinese, it is so hard for me to understand all his lyrics, let alone foreigners. So, you can imagine how puzzled their expressions were when they were taking this hard exam. They were totally shocked. In the end, there were just four out of thirty who said the right answer. One of the four confessed that it was because of fortune and probability, choosing the right answer from A、B、C.

On the one hand, this video reminded me that when I was learning English language, I also had much trouble on exams and in daily conversations. From Chinese people's attitude towards foreigners who are learning Chinese, I learned that no one will laugh at you, even if you make mistakes or you cannot give the right answer. It does not matter. What really matters is your enthusiasm for learning other languages and cultures. I am very happy to find that increasingly people are interested in China and Chinese culture. Therefore, they came to China and participated in the TV program, rising to the challenge.



王静

WANG JING
JEAN

My Chinese name is Wang Jing and my English name is Jean. I was born on 14 April 1996 in a small village in Xuzhou City, Jiangsu Province. I left my parents when I was three days old and lived with my aunt in a small village until I finished my primary school. I studied hard and entered a key senior high school-Xuzhou's No. 7 Middle School, where I had many wonderful teachers and classmates.

I have several hopes for the future. First, I hope to have perfect English. My major is English translation and I will depend on it to find a good job. Second, I want to create an online platform to help primary students to learn English better. Some children in remote areas lack the chance to learn English well. If they learn English as young as possible, they will have better English. I want to help though the power and convenience of the Internet. I also want to study further in writing stories. I like reading stories, however, I lack specialized knowledge in creative fiction. In the future, I hope creativity can be my specialty. spread Chinese culture. Wisdom is desirable. Becoming a professor or scholar is a big challenge, demanding determination, hard-work, and good knowledge.

Dreams are beautiful, reality is harsh. Competition is everywhere. Now, what I need is excellent English.

A WIDOW

Wang Ya's drunk husband died on a snowy day when he crashed his car.

When her husband was alive, Wang Ya led a glorious life. Every time her relatives turned to her for help, she solved their problems.

Spring Festival was around the corner. Wang Ya had no money to buy food and decorations. She then decided to ask Li Ru, one of her relatives, for help. Wang Ya had helped Li Ru get through hard times when someone turned a deaf ear to her troubles. Wang Ya went to Li Ru's home and saw the lights were still on. She knocked, but nobody answered. Wang Ya thought Li Ru had not heard, and then she decided to wait. It was cold and she soon was trembling.

An hour later, Li Ru came out. Wang Ya called her name. Li Ru ignored her. Wang Ya was a little embarrassed because she hadn't expected this.

"Li Ru, please lend me some money! I'll pay it back as soon as I find a job," Wang Ya said sincerely.

"Don't disturb my life. I have no extra money for you," Li Ru retorted, and went back in her house and slammed the door.

Wang Ya felt hurt, and wanted to cry. She did not remember how she got back home. She tried her best to restrain her anger and sadness. When her granddaughter ran to her, she managed a smile and said, "My girl, we have to depend on ourselves to better our life,"

The little girl looked confused but nodded.

Wang Ya hugged her granddaughter tightly and looked into the distance.

Love makes our lives colorful and meaningful. Pure love between men and women is attractive. Although we may grow apart from the one we love, they make our lives complete and wonderful. We should appreciate them, and then move on to embrace new days.

Central University was one of the most beautiful campuses in China. Yan Xiang and Wang Zixuan met at Central University. Pure love between these two young students blossomed in a secret way.

Although Yan Xiang was tall and handsome, Wang Zixuan disliked him at first sight. He was arrogant. Wang Zixuan was outgoing and got along with her classmates except for Yan Xiang.

When Wang Zixuan met Yan Xiang in the library, she greeted him, but he just looked at her in a casual way and then ignored her. Zixuan felt embarrassed. She felt she brought shame on herself. She said to herself that she would never greet Yan Xiang first.

Coincidentally, Yan Xiang and Wang Zixuan's head teacher appointed them to be deskmates. Wang Zixuan was surprised while Yan Xiang was calm. Yan Xiang was indifferent to Zixuan. They did not talk to each other before one rainy Saturday. They both studied in the library until its closing time.

Wang Zixuan found it was raining, but she had not brought an umbrella. It was a heavy rain, she did not know what to do.

Then, Yan Xiang appeared, wearing indifferent expression. Zixuan happened to see him.

To avoid unnecessary embarrassment, Zixuan pretended to look in her bag. Unexpectedly, Yan Xiang came to her, and said he was willing to share his umbrella with her.

At first, Wang Zixuan was astonished, and then thanked him. It was a cold day, but Zixuan felt warm. They thus became familiar with each other, and went to the library together.

Gradually, Yan Xiang told his happiness and sorrow to Wang Zixuan, and Zixuan also shared her experiences with him. In fact, they shared a lot in background, personality, value, and destiny.

Yan Xiang was living with his grandparents and he did not know his parents well until he entered university. He was looked down upon by most of his classmates because he did not have parents. They

said that his parents had abandoned him. This really hurt Yan Xiang, and he decided to study hard to gain his dignity at a very young age.

Wang Zixuan was brought up by her Uncle Lu. Her parents did not want a daughter at that time, so they sent her away. Her peers laughed at her, but she did not take it seriously. Luckily, her Uncle Lu loved her very much.

Yan Xiang seldom spent time making friends. Wang Zixuan had similar experiences with him, and lived in some distress. However, Zixuan encouraged herself to make friends to rid herself of loneliness and helpless feelings.

Slowly, Yan Xiang and Wang Zixuan fell in love, but neither said it. Both were unsure what true love was. They were just young students, comforting each other, sharing sorrow and joy. Yan Xiang feared rejection. He did not know whether Zixuan loved him or not. Zixuan wanted to wait for Yan Xiang. A traditional Chinese girl believes that if she declares love first, her lover will not appreciate her. They devoted themselves to study and improving themselves so as to deserve pure beautiful love.

Later, they became excellent students, especially Yan Xiang, who often got the highest scores in class. He became more active and easy-going. He was increasingly popular at Central University. And many beautiful excellent girls pursued him, but he refused them without hesitation.

Meanwhile, Wang Zixuan talked less to An Axing due to her Uncle Lu's unexpected death. She looked pale. When Yan Xiang asked her the reason, she did not tell him. Yan Xiang felt that there was something wrong. He tried to communicate but Zixuan avoided to talk about it.

On a cold windy day, Wang Zixuan pleaded with her head teacher to change her seat, and finally got permission.

It was not easy for Wang Zixuan to decide to separate from Yan Xiang. She really loved him, but she knew that he had a very bright future because he was so talented. She knew she still needed to go through some terrible things and that she must let him go. Her dignity made her keep away from him. She studied harder, hoping to realize her potential and her dreams. If Yan Xiang really loved her, she would explain everything to him, and chose to stay by his side later. If their

relationship ended, she believed it was the arrangement of their destinies.

Things change. People come and go. When Wang Zixuan and Yan Xiang met again after quite a long time, there was a sweet girl by Yan Xiang, and a handsome boy standing by Wang Zixuan.

Zeng Mengrou had pursued Yan Xiang for a long time. Yan Xiang refused her, but she suggested she be his good friend. He did not want to hurt her and he accepted.

The boy by Zixuan was Lin Pengchuan, who had noticed her and treated her gently. Lin Pengchuan loved Zixuan, but he did not tell her. He was contented he could become her good friend.

Just at that moment, Zixian and Pengchuan came into Yan Xiang's sight. His smile faded. Yan Xiang thought Lin Pengchuan was Zixuan's boyfriend, who seemed perfect for her. He felt a sharp pain in his heart. He managed a smile and he walked past Zixuan and Pengchuan.

Wang Zixuan and Yan Xiang remained single. When Wang Lu was asked by her friends and families why she had not found a boyfriend, she smiled and said nothing. A corner in her heart is for Yan Xiang. Though she is not sure whether she can bring him back, she never feels regretful. She cherishes his appearance in her life, sharing her pain and happiness. No matter the ending, he will never disappear in her world.

FRAGILE FRIENDSHIP

A film named "Qi Yue and An Sheng" was shown in most of the cinemas. It told a story about two girls, who grew up together and built a very close friendship, even though they had totally different personalities. When they grew up, they happened to fall in love with the same boy, their friendship broke up. As we all know, friends play a significant role in our complete and colorful lives. However, friendship is fragile, and it is hard to keep it fresh forever. For me, with the time went by, I lost one of my good friends.

When in my primary school, I had a good friend, just as Qi Yue and An Sheng. We went to school by bike, sang songs in the rain, and fought with boys together. In my mind, all of this is an unforgettable memory, but later I came to realize that it was just my own idea. We entered the same school, but in different classes. Just at that time, my friend, who used to be, sent me a message. It read that you hurt me a lot in past years, because you never treated me as you true friend, so did I. I was tortured by your confidence and selfishness. Now, I had my chance to get rid of you and started my new happy life. I was deeply sad and felt a sense of lost when I read it, and I laughed at myself again and again. Even though I was hurt, I pretended to be very calm to reply to her, and gave her my best wishes, no matter how false I was in her eyes, I hope her to be a happy one.

Now, as an adult, I become mature and sensible. I still bear it in my mind that friendship is fragile and easy to break. But it does not mean that I do not believe in friends any more. I have learned to be a good friend, and cherish my friends. If I had an opportunity to return to the time when I wrote back to my former friend, I would try my best to break the ice between us, and see the matter from a different angle, a comprehensive and inclusive way. So, all of us need to appreciate our fragile friendship, if we do well in it, we will receive forever friendship, which will be admired by everyone.



何晨
HE CHEN
IRIS

My name is He Chen. My English name is Iris. I was born in the morning on 14 November 1997. Chen means "morning". My parents hope that I will treasure time.

I was born and lived in a small town called Qingcao, Tongcheng County, Anhui Province located in the east China.

I lived a simple and happy life in Qingcao for sixteen years. After graduating from junior middle school, I went to Tongcheng Senior Middle School, a middle high school in Anhui Province. In this school, I gained friendship, learned how to love people, and empowered myself with knowledge. Although also full of hardship and confusion, I still feel grateful and respect my alma mater.

It is funny that I really do not know what I want to do. I am still searching for what I am interested in. For now, I do not have that long-term plan. I want to achieve my life systematically. Frist, I want to pass the TEM-4 exam with high marks. Second, I want to learn French and Korean. These are goals for my next two years.

Ning Zhitong pushed the stretcher and yelled, "Hurry up!" then said to the woman on the stretcher, "Hold on, dear, hold on!"

Liu Zihan, his second wife, had been pregnant for a month. She had fallen down the stairs.

Soon, several relatives arrived. One sighed, "M tomorrow is New Year's Eve. Why did such an accident befall her?"

Liu regained consciousness. The doctor told her that she lost her baby. She yowled, "It's him! It's definitely him. He killed my baby. He killed my baby!"

Ning came in and asked what happened.

Liu turned to him and said, "Your good boy killed my son!"

Ning smiled bitterly, "Impossible,"

"He pushed me downstairs. He tried to kill me. He wanted revenge! "

"What revenge?" Ning asked.

But Liu did not reply.

Ning thought that she was overwhelmed by the death of the baby, and asked her no more.

A few weeks later, Liu recovered and came back home. She saw the little boy, Ning Lang, smiled at her. She fearfully ran into her room. But when she went into her room, Lang was standing there. She started screaming.

Ning ran up and asked to Liu. Liu seemed like not hearing his voice, just whispered, "Ning Lang's ghost is coming to kill me. He wants me to die! Because I killed him!"

Ning was frightened to cry. His son, Ning Lang died three years ago, when he was four years old. He thought his little boy died from drinking pesticide, which he had mistaken for juice.

Sad and angry, he choked Liu. Liu struggled then did not move. She was dead. Ning fell, laughed, and said, "I'm here for you, my dear son," and he committed suicide.

A DISTANT LOVE

When Yi Erbai arrives at Central University, everyone around her is very happy and big smiles. But she is upset, because her boyfriend Song Zimo, has not come with her. Song was her high school classmate. They both like each other, but love is hidden in their hearts. When the College Entrance Exam was over, they started a new relationship. But Song did not get good grades, and was not admitted to Central University, so he decided to study for another year and take the College Entrance Exam again.

Yi cheers up and thinks hopefully, "Just one year. Time flies. We can see each other soon!"

Yi starts her college life and finds many new interesting things. Not like other girls who just enjoy their new lives and forget their boyfriends, Yi always miss him and wishes that he could study with her. She never tells Song. She knows Song study very hard and does not want to put pressure on him.

The school Song studies at is a special school for students who want to study another year to earn good grades on the College Entrance Exam. This school requires that you board at the school. There is little free time. Besides, Song has a very strong desire to score well on the final exam. It is his last chance. He studies really hard. He gets up at five AM and starts to read and speak English because of his poor English. Then he goes to classes. After class, he calls Yi. Yi talks to Song about the clubs she joins, her roommates and classmates and about the major. She shares her study and life experiences and tells him many interesting things.

Song listens carefully and in delight. He says some funny things about his teachers, such as his math teacher wear a very pink shirt, and then some students call him "Pink Lady".

These little things make her laugh. They chat commonly one to two hours. It seems their dialogues never end. Although there are many miles between them, they feel very close.

One night a few months later, Song gets a call from Yi at midnight. He picks up the phone. He feels it is strange because Yi never called so late. He has a foreboding. "Hello?" he says.

No one responds. He says, "Yi, is that you?"

No one responds either.

Song is worried, he wonders if Yi are bullied or robbed. He jumps from his bed, and yells, "Yi, are you okay?"

Quiet comes from the phone.

"Are you okay? You are scary me to death," Song says.

Finally, Yi responds, "Yes, I'm fine,"

"What happened?" he asks gently. "Talk to me,"

"I do not know what to say and how to say,"

"Just say whatever you want to,"

Yi tells a story about a little girl and her family, and how she struggled to have a happy family life, and how she made a big mistake. Yi found that her father had a love affair three years earlier. She did not ask her father if it was true because of her cowardice. Disappointed and upset, she did not want her parents to divorce. She said nothing. She kept it as a secret for three years. But a few days ago, she spoke impulsively when her parent had a fight...

"I'm really sorry for what I said. I am regretful. I don't know what's wrong with me. I just said it. I was afraid one of them would get hurt. I'm so sorry, I'm sorry..." Yi starts crying again.

"That is not your fault. Nothing is your fault. You did your best,"

"No, that is my fault if they got divorced,"

"You cannot blame yourself. Everything has consequences. Keeping a secret is not the best way to solve a problem. It is unfair to your mother. Your father made a mistake and must make it up. It depends on what your father does..." Song comforts her for a long time.

Eventually she feels better, and suddenly says, "I miss you," Song feels sorry and does not know what to say. They fall into silence.

Song says, "I miss you, too. I promise we will meet soon. CROSS MY HEART,"

Yi's parents eventually divorce. Although Yi feels sad, she sighs in relief. It seems like a heavy stone has rolled off her heart. She feels lucky that she has Song. He is just so kind and lovely. She is amused by her thoughts, "Love is blind, and I really am in love,"

Song takes the exam again and gets good grades. He excitedly tells this good news to Yi in person. She is also excited and burst into

tear and hugs him tightly. They eventually get enter the same university. At college, they study hard. They also go to cinemas, have meals together, and do everything lovers do. But they also quarrel sometimes. Above all, they learn to consider each other's feelings.

Time goes by, they graduate. On the day Song graduates, he asks Yi to celebrate. He prepared a big surprise - he will propose to her. He prepared everything like the plot of the novel. He reserved a table at a restaurant and bought a diamond ring. He practiced thousands of times to kneel. But when the time really comes, he feels nervous and stutters. He pretends to act normally. But he keeps sweating and drinks water ceaselessly. Yi talks with him happily, but he hears nothing.

He decides to make the proposal, takes a deep breath, walks up to her, kneels, holds up the ring and asks loudly with bright eyes, "Will you marry me, Yi Erbai?"

Yi sits there with big eyes and cover her mouth with her hands. She is frozen.

Minutes later, she responds fully tears, "Yes, I will,"

Song stands up, hugs Yi tightly and kisses her.

Their marriage is held in their hometown.

Years later they have a son whom they name Song Muyi ('Song Loves Yi').

A HORRIBLE CAR ACCIDENT

Believe it or not, I will tell you a breathtaking but true accident that happened in the winter of 2015. A car crash happened to me. It was really a big event in my family and in my life.

I got home in the morning. I was so tired that I just went straight to my bed. My mother was busy with something else, so she told me that I should go to my brother's school alone to pick him before 4 o'clock. At about ten to 4, I got up and rode our motorcycle to his school. On the way home, a car backed up very fast. I took a sudden turn to avoid it, but I failed. My motorcycle turned over and slid away on the ground.

I fell and lay on the road; I was dizzy and could not move. Luckily, my brother fell on my body without being injured. I picked myself up after a bit, my body was badly bruised and my thigh had severe bruising. Fortunately, I was not seriously injured.

I could not help shivering. I called my mother. The moment I saw her, I started crying. The man who knocked me down sent me to hospital. There were just some bruises. In a word, I was all right. But there are still some scars on my foot and thigh.



窦泓
DOU HONG
KATRINA

My name is Dou Hong and my English name is Katrina. "Hong" means the wide, deep sea, so my parents want me to be broad-minded. I was born on 10 February 1997- on the tenth day of the first lunar month. Like most families in China, I am an only child. Born and raised in Jinchang, I moved to Zhangye at age eleven. Both are in Gansu Province and are underdeveloped. I spent eighteen happy years there and attended senior middle school in Zhangye.

I am now a student at Shaanxi Normal University, majoring in translation, because I want to be an interpreter. When I first came to translation, I found it harder than I expected. An excellent interpreter must speak perfect English and amazing Chinese. Even though it is tough, I will keep striving. Consequently, I am ready to meet the challenges in the future, though they might be hard. I will try my best.

I will learn psychology by myself next semester, because it is important for a language learner to specialize. I hope I can get an ideal job, be an excellent interpreter, and live happily with my parents.

A HORRIBLE NIGHT

The night before Spring Festival was a cold Sunday evening in China, Fang Zhiyou hurriedly drove home. Zhiyou wanted to get home before midnight, so he hit the gas pedal. Zhiyou pictured his parents and other relatives sitting around the table, watching the Spring Festival Gala, as the children setting off fireworks. How cozy! He could not wait to arrive home. Zhiyou drove fast on the freeway. The only thing in his mind was home, so he did not notice the gravel. Zhiyou swerved sharply. The car rolled and crashed through the guardrail. Zhiyou lost consciousness.

Before long, Zhiyou's parents got a call from the hospital. The air seemed to freeze. Everyone was thunder-struck. His mother shuddered and wept. His father was also upset, but still tried to stay calm. Disheartened and desperate, Zhiyou's parents rushed off to hail a taxi. That was almost impossible because there were few cars on the street. Nearly every family was enjoying a happy time together. Fortunately, a beam of light appeared. Zhiyou's parents' faces lit up as though a match in a dark room had been lit. The driver took them to the hospital. They quickly found the ward and saw their son lying motionless in bed. Seeing the horrible scars on his face, Zhiyou's parents burst into tears, repeated his name, and touched his face.

Then, a doctor came in and told them Zhiyou was lucky. Airbag saved his life and, he would begin recovering in a few days. Zhiyou's parents wept with joy as they heard these. All they required, since Zhiyou was born, was he could be safe and health. Although Zhiyou was injured in the accident, he was still alive. This was really the fortunate part of all the misfortunes. From now on, they would cherish the time spent on families more than ever.

Would there ever be a summer vacation when students got rid of endless tests and exams? What they needed was to enjoy sunshine and long-lost freedom. After going through a hard time on the College Entrance Examination, most graduates planned to travel with their fellows before going to college. Chai Wenkai and his friends were no exception.

All Chai Wenkai's close friends joined the journey - Yang Xingchen; Zhang Long; Wenkai's girlfriend, Luo Yanting; and others. Like Wenkai, Yanting was vivacious and a little emotional. They were similar in personality and features. This was an important reason they had become lovers when they were in high school. In contrast, Yang Xingchen was quiet.

A good way to get to know a person is to travel together. Although things went well during the journey, something changed. Without teachers' discipline and parents' control, this trip was a good opportunity for Wenkai and Yanting to become intimate.

Wenkai found that he was not as attracted to Yanting as before. He thought she was spoiled, inconsiderate, and became exasperated easily when which she was discontent.

Wenkai began reflecting on their relationship. He decided he could not bear Yanting because they were too similar. Maybe he needed a girl who was totally different. Then he noticed Yang Xingchen. Xingchen was rational, independent, and considerate. "This is the girl whom I want!" he thought.

Xingchen also had feelings for Wenkai. He reminded her of a boy whom she had liked. She thought, "Both are outgoing and good-looking. Perhaps Wenkai can substitute for him,"

Wenkai and Xingchen ended up in the same major and the same class at Central University. They quickly became close. Wenkai started dating Xingchen as soon as he broke up with Yanting.

Yanting felt betrayed and rejected their apologies. Although they were sorry for hurting Yanting, it does not bother them for a long time, because they were happy to be lovers.

Wenkai and Xingchen lacked experience in love, but tried to

please each other. They were almost inseparable--going to class together, having meals together, and studying together. Only night separated them because they had to sleep in separately dormitories.

To amuse Xingchen, Wenkai sent presents.

Xingchen wrote a love letter in response.

With time, both rejoiced in their decisions. He had found a girl who matched him and, to Xingchen, Wenkai was a qualified substitute for "that boy".

A couple in love must make concessions. Xingchen was very independent. Wenkai felt she did not need him. For example, when they had dinner, Xingchen served herself without his help; when it rained, she did not need him to hold an umbrella for her, because she preferred to use it alone. Such things made Wenkai wonder if they were lovers or just close friends. In his opinion, Xingchen was like a stone that he could never warm.

Xingchen loathed his laziness. Every time she saw him sleeping in class, she felt humiliated. In addition, she knew that Wenkai just wanted to say something to flatter her. However, she could not stop laughing at him in her mind, because those words were silly. His compliments were too childish and a little disgusting. A wall gradually grew between them.

At the end of the semester, Yang Xingchen got very ordinary marks. Wenkai's scores were worse. He did not pass even one course.

When Xingchen complained, he comforted her, "It does not matter. You passed all your courses. Look at me, I did worse than you. You need to learn to relax,"

Xingchen could not believe he would say such words. Angry and disappointed, she left with, "Work hard. Let's break up,"

Wenkai was thunder-struck, sorrowful, and at a loss.

Later, no matter how Chai Wenkai tried to talk to her, Xingchen said not a word to him and even avoided him. Xingchen devoted herself to study. She did not want to let her parents and herself down. She knew she should have been the top student in the class.

Finally, Wenkai realized she would never care about him, and then he indulged himself in excessive activities to drown his sorrows. His marks got worse and worse.

When Xingchen found out, she felt he was to blame for his

failing grades rather than her. They deleted each other's phone numbers and WeChat contacts and swore they would never forgive each other.

Xingchen and Wenkai led their own lives. They heard of each other from others only by accident. Xingchen won a scholarship, and Wenkai found another girlfriend.

Two weeks after breaking up, Xingchen started to see Yang Jia, a smart, reliable boy who was good at keeping girls happy. Xingchen thought Yang Jia was her Mr. Right! They even shared the same family name! Yang Jia knew her well. He never forced her to express her feelings, and offered to help her anytime she needed it.

"This is the man I have waited for," Xingchen thought happily.

Xingchen and Yang Jia led a happy college life together. However, when she thought they might have a deeper relationship, Yang Jia distanced himself from her. Xingchen did not know why. Then she saw him with another girl who was very much like her, even as to voice and personality. Xingchen understood then that she herself was a woeful substitute for another.

"That is why I dated you, because you resemble her," Yang Jia said, "Now she is back, I want to be with her again, but we still can be friends,"

With a broken heart, Xingchen said goodbye and thought of Wenkai.

"Retribution?" Xingchen murmured. She closed her eyes, and her heart sank. "I hurt Wenkai in such a terrible way. It is now my turn to go through this kind of hard time. How selfish I was!" She managed a bitter smile. Xingchen wanted to apologize, but she dared not because he would never forgive her just like she would never forgive Yang Jia. Regret is useless. Harm has already been done. Maybe a few years later, when they were more mature than now, Yang Xingchen and Chai Wenkai might realize how naïve they were, make a fresh start, and be friends. Will that day come? No one knows.

Love can make people grow or diminish. Immature love brings hurts. The relationship between Chai Wenkai and Yang Xingchen hurt at least three people. In the end, they all lost close friends. There are many things we need to learn--how to love, how to end a relationship, and so on.

A few years later, Xingchen realized that she had hurt Wenkai deeply. Even though she did not like him, it was her responsibility to break up with him in a kind way without hurtful words.

Young people should enter relationships carefully. Make sure you are mature enough to take it seriously.

DISAPPEARED

During the National Day Holiday, I finished watching the *Friends*. This TV series is full of joy, touching, and what is more, it reminds me of a friend.

When I was young, my best friend just lived upstairs. We did almost everything together, like playing, studying, sleeping, etc. However, these did not keep a long time, because I left for another city with my parents. We promised to call each other every day; in addition, both of us believed we would be good friends forever. At the beginning, we did just as what we had promised. Gradually, we both had new friends and the connection between us was not close any more. The only way we knew each other was the internet. From her Qzone, I found that she started to put on makeup, curl her hair, and have a boyfriend when we were in high school. I went back to find her once in summer vacation. We sit on the swing which we used to play, and talked lots of things. At that time, I realized, wherever we were, our hearts stayed together, and no matter how she changed, she was always that young girl in my childhood. Though lack of contact, we still meant a lot to each other. But later, I thought I was wrong.

Things changed. In the later days, we were back to the same situation as before—seldom contacted. Up to now, we just chat online on holidays, even out of touch. I do ever think about calling her, but I know that if I really did, we both would be awkward, since we are not familiar with each other like before. Though it is heartbreaking, I still appreciate it that she had ever accompanied with me during my whole childhood, and we were friends is enough.



张雪曼
ZHANG XUEMAN
NORA

My name is Zhang Xueman and my English name is Nora. I was born on 6 January 1996, in Hefei, Anhui Province. Hefei is not a well-known city, even though it is the capital of Anhui Province. I lived in Hefei for about 19 years. Compared with Xi'an, the population and size of Hefei is smaller than Xi'an, but I love her more than Xi'an.

Hefei No. 1 Senior Middle School is one of the best schools in Hefei, and I was lucky to study there. Hefei No. 1 Senior Middle School has a long history. It was established in 1902 by Li Jingfang, who was the son of an important official, Li Hongzhang. There are many famous figures from my school, such as the Nobel Prize winner, Yang Zhenning, and the CEO of Lenovo, Yang Yuanqing.

I don't have a specific blueprint for the next 10 years later. I do want to go to Nanjing University to study for a master's degree. I will not devote myself to language learning, but instead

turn to history, especially the comparative study of Chinese and Western history. After I get my master's degree, I will return to Hefei and find a job, maybe as a teacher or a cook.

The work was done in 3 hours. Wan Zhi briskly walked to the parking lot to enjoy 7-days off with his family during Spring Festival. His wife had prepared a big meal.

Every New Year's Eve, there were few cars and pedestrians on the streets. However, some people like Wan Zhi were hurrying home.

"When will you arrive?" Jiao Yu, Wan Zhi's wife, asked.

"I, about 10 minutes. The traffic is really smooth and fast," Wan Zhi said. "Should I bring a bottle of... oh no!"

"What's wrong? What happened?" Jiao Yu asked, with a sense of foreboding.

"I bumped a woman," Wan Zhi said in a trembling voice.

"Calm down. Take her to hospital, right now. She'll be fine," Jiao Yu said.

Wan Zhi gets out of his car, lifts the woman, puts her in the backseat, and takes her to hospital. She is unconscious.

"She must be alive. I didn't drive that fast," Wan Zhi said to himself.

Wan Zhi considers the situations he will face. If the woman dies, he hopes for a shorter sentence because he took her to the hospital. He sobs silently. He has never been so upset.

When Jiao Yu and relatives reach the hospital, they see Wan Zhi crouching on the ground. Jiao Yu steps to him. Tears come to her eyes. An accident can ruin two families. They are a young couple, and have little ability to pay a huge penalty. All their relatives worry. Nobody promises a happy ending.

"Is the patient's family here?" the doctor asks. "The patient is anemic, which is why she fainted

Wan Zhi calms down. He can enjoy his holiday now.

HIDDEN LOVE ONLY BELONGS TO ONE

A new ice cream shop opened near West Gate. Would you like to give it try?" Sun Chuanfang, the head of Room 905 asks, and looks at her roommates.

"Of course!" Zhou Yu, a beautiful girl from Hunan Province says, "I heard that the shopkeeper is very handsome!"

"Really? Did Wu Jiaqi tell you that? You never get truth from her. Actually, the reality is completely different," Zheng Yijun said. "How about you, Zhao Ran?"

"I like ice cream, but I must do some work before this weekend. I am afraid that I can't enjoy ice cream with you," Zhao Ran explains and leaves for a teaching building.

It is dark when she left the No. 8 Teaching Building. The temperature in Xi'an hasn't drop a lot, and there isn't any wind. It is a good time for an ice cream. Zhao Ran recalls what her roommates said this afternoon, and walks to the popular ice cream parlor.

"The shop owner must be a romantic lady," came the one and only idea in Zhao Ran's mind at first sight of the shop. There was a whole wall full of photos, which was the biggest attraction in this shop.

"May I help you?" a waiter asks "We have various ice creams,"

Zhao Ran can't help staring at the waiter, because he looks really personable. Zhao Ran is too nervous to say anything.

"...or if you don't have any preference, how about try some popular flavors?" the waiter says.

Zhao Ran was lost in his gallantry, and came to herself when she heard his voice.

"That's fine, please," she says.

"Vanilla and strawberry both are popular, and we add chocolate pieces on the ice cream. It's very delicious," he says.

"How about that green one? Which flavor is it?" Zhao Ran asks.

"Mint and green tea flavor. Not very popular but my favorite," he says smiling. "Some girls are fond of the color. Actually, it is kind of bitter. Would you like to try?"

"Yes, I like mint flavor," she said.

In fact, the mint and green flavor is really cool. Zhao Ran falls in love with this flavor. It tastes colder than normal ice cream because the mint is a little bitter, like a brisk wind taking her away from the burning summer.

"Mint and green tea flavor is tasty, right?" the waiter asks and gives her a card. "Please keep this card for a 30% discount. We look forward to your next visit,"

"What's your name?" she murmurs.

"Sorry?" he said, not hearing very clearly.

"Nothing, thank you for the card," she whispers and rushes away.

Zhao Ran returns to her dormitory, and her roommates tell Zhao Ran that they visited the ice cream shop and speak highly of the ice cream.

"Do you know the waiter's name? He is always smiling," Zhao Ran says, really desiring to get to know him.

"You mean the tall man? He is the shop owner, and very nice, handsome, and gentle. I heard an assistant called him Mr. Meng," Sun Chuanfang said.

Zhao Ran hears a voice in her mind, "Meng! Sounds like a dream; I think he is the only man who will appear in my dream. Does he have a relationship with someone? Will I have an opportunity to...?" With many romantic thoughts, she tosses and turns in the whole night.

Zhao Ran becomes a regular customer at the shop, and becomes increasingly familiar with Meng Jue. During the development of their friendship, Zhao Ran believes that Meng Jue is her real soul mate. There is a strong resonance between them. One day in early autumn, Zhao Ran decides to pluck up the courage to confess.

Unluckily, Meng Jue was not in the shop when Zhao Ran came. "That's fine, I'm not ready. I'll tell him next time," she consoles herself.

Two weeks later, they meet again. She plans to talk to him. When she arrives at the shop, she buys mint and green tea ice cream as usual. Suddenly, her mobile phone rings. It is her teacher's call, who tells her to send a crucial document to No. 9 Teaching Building immediately. Zhao Ran has no choice.

"Go ahead to do your thing," Meng Jue says, "Ice cream is always here,"

Zhao Ran's teacher gives her another task once she is in the office. It is now too late to enjoy ice cream. She has to walk to her dormitory, tired and distressed. Zhou Yu found Zhao Ran's unusual behavior early, and asked Zhao Ran three times, but Zhao Ran was always silent or evasive

Finally, Zhao Ran decides to meet Meng Jue on Saturday. She messages him to ensure if he will be to the shop, and slept comfortably with the appositive reply.

It is a rainy day.

Zhao Ran thinks, "This shop is not attractive like before. It's chill now,"

Meng Jue waves to her. She runs to him with affection.

"I have good news to tell you. Guess what?" Meng Jue says.

Zhao Ran believes she can hear her heart beating, as though a strange beast is purring in her bosom, "Let me guess; is it about a special person?"

"You are truly clever. I have a girlfriend! Yesterday I bared my heart to my childhood friend who owns this shop. She said she likes me, but didn't know if I had a girlfriend. The most interesting thing is she thought you were my girlfriend," he says with his distinctive smile.

Zhao Ran sits, thunder-struck, astounded beyond words. His endless stream of words goes on, but she looks at him as if he was a hero of a silent film. Not a single word registers.

"...Zhao Ran, Zhao Ran, what are you thinking about? I called you name three times. Oh, you said you had an important thing to tell me. What?" he says.

"...ah, it is not very important. My teacher decided to let me join his project. Congratulations. You are so lucky to win a beauty," she says, and her face pales, though her smile turns brighter.

"Congratulations," he says, "you are also very lucky,"

Her mobile phone rings. It is not a familiar phone number, but a good reason to leaves this upset place.

Zhao Ran looks at it, stands up, and says, "I have to go. My teacher is calling me,"

"Of course, your things are always first," he says gently. Zhao Ran leaves quietly and quickly without a backward glance.

"Luck never happens to me," she whispers, wipes away tears, and hurries to the school.

My mother loves growing flowers. What disappointed her is the flowers always fade, no matter the kind of flower. Her interest in growing flowers developed since we moved into our new apartment. The house has a very light color---it has a white wall, beige doors, and milky white floor bricks. Mother thought that the house needed more colors to decorate our home, that plants were the best option.

With no experience of cultivating flowers, Mother bought some evergreen plants. Luckily most of them survived, which encouraged her. She thought she was a great gardener, and bought various flowers that are hard to cultivate. Disaster began.

Different plants need different environments. For example, not all plants love sunshine, Mother kept the plants on out balcony, and she used egg shells to add nutrition, cut off bad branches, watering them regularly, but got poor results.

I suggested she giving up this hobby. However, she insists on cultivating plant still. Now, with two-year experience she is a good gardener, and my home is more beautiful than before.



潘丽蓉
PAN LIRONG
RUBY

My name is Pan Lirong. The middle character comes from a family tradition. Every girl in my family has Li in their names, and every boy has Zhen.

I was born in Jiuquan, Gansu Province on 11 November 1996. My mother said that the weather at the time on my birth was extremely cold. She guessed that I might be as cold as winter, however, it was just the opposite.

Jiuquan is in the northwest of Gansu and famous for the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. Therefore, many of my college classmates often ask if I watch rocket launches from my home, which embarrasses me.

I lived in Suzhou District, which has four main streets surrounding the drum-tower. My home is on West Street. Because my home is near the city center, many kinds of community facilities are there, including my senior middle school.

My senior middle school is Jiuquan Middle School, which is opposite my home. It belongs to a garden school because the green

space occupies 60% of school and it has the biggest group of historic buildings in Jiuquan.

After college, I hope I can continue learning interpretation in a professional college. I hope I can study abroad for a year to know more about the world. I hope my passion for interpretation will never fade, no matter how many difficulties are confront me.

WARM LOVE

New Year's Eve streets were decorated colorfully. There were few cars. He sped up, eager to get home. Work had kept him away from home for one year. He was eager to see his adorable daughter, his wife, and his parents.

On the phone, he said, "Yeah, Daddy will be there a few minute later. I bought gifts for you," and glanced at the gifts on the backseat.

His happiness and excitement were beyond expression, signaled by a bright smile. Suddenly, the smile solidified with squealing brakes.

The phone had fallen to the floor murmured, "Daddy? What's wrong? "

A great headache came. He opened his eyes slowly. Bright white light made his eyes sting. He saw people around him—his daughter, his wife, his parents, and other relatives.

"Dear, what happened?" he asked his wife.

"You had a traffic accident. When you were on the phone, another car hit your car. Fortunately, you both weren't injured seriously," his wife answered. "Many relatives came to here as soon as they heard the news,"

He felt upset. "I'm sorry that I destroyed a wonderful New Year's Eve. We should be in our home,"

"Don't feel sorry, Wang Kai," his aunt said, "The most important is not where we spend Spring Festival but who accompanies us,"

His wife bought snacks for their relatives. They all stayed in the ward, watching the Spring Festival gala evening together on TV and giving each other good wishes. Although his head was still painful, he felt happy that he could spend this special night with his family.

No matter what happens, our family makes us stronger. A house can be called home only when it has us and our loved ones.

Dark at night, it was so quiet. It seemed nobody was in the big school. Everyone had fallen asleep peacefully. Wu Mozi had gone to bed early and fallen asleep quickly. She knew that in her world, however, there would be no peace. She felt someone was choking her. She was nearly suffocated. Dimly, she saw a girl in a white dress walking slowly towards her. Mozi could not see the girl clearly. Wu Mozi struggled, but it was useless. She thought she would die soon. Suddenly, that feeling disappeared. She was exhausted. She opened her eyes. There was quiet and darkness. She was still in bed. There was no girl. Everything looked fine. She heard her roommates breathing. "Hah! The same dream again," she said to herself.

She got out of bed and went to the WC quietly. After washing her hands, she left the WC. Suddenly, she glanced in the corridor. There was something white. She went near. She couldn't believe her eyes. It was the girl! Now the girl was walking slowly towards her, just like in her dream! Wu Mozi screamed and all the lights in the corridor came on. She ran to her dormitory. When she looked back, the girl was gone.

The teacher was talking about history. Wu Mozi looked pale and yawned endlessly. Her roommates asked her if she was okay. She said she is fine. She recalled the previous night. Her mother's words came to her, "If you see something terrible in school, call me. I and your father will come to your school immediately," She wanted her parents' protection. She didn't want to trouble them.

"Wu Mozi! Please pay attention!" Professor barked. She was scared. After class, as punishment, the professor told her to prepare a speech about what he had taught today and copy the material from Feng Ziqing, the professor's student assistant.

Wu Mozi knew him. He had won a lot of prizes. He was not easy-going. It seemed he didn't like getting on with others.

After dinner, Wu Mozi went to the library to meet Feng Ziqing, who wore a white shirt. Sunshine through the window sprinkled his shirt, dyeing it a warm color.

Wu Mozi wanted to talk about the professor with him, but Feng

just gave her material and did his own work quietly. Wu Mozi was preparing the speech alone.

When the library was ready to close, Feng Ziqing politely escorted Wu Mozi to her dormitory building. Along the path, both said nothing. Wu Mozi felt someone was behind them. She turned. It was the girl in white again. Wu Mozi clutched Feng Ziqing's sleeve. Suddenly, the white girl disappeared. Wu Mozi sighed in relief.

Feng Ziqing looked Wu strangely.

Although confused, Mozi smiled and said nothing.

Wu Mozi prepared the professor's task carefully. The professor thought highly of her work and chose her as a student assistant. Wu Mozi and Feng Ziqing then often studied together. Mozi was pleasantly surprised to find that when she encountered the ghost girl and she then touched Feng Ziqing, the ghost disappeared! She felt happy.

"Hey! Feng Ziqing! May I have lunch with you? Thank you!"
"Feng Ziqing, will you go to the library tonight? Let's go together!"

"Feng Ziqing, please escort me to my dormitory. You are so nice!"

But Feng Ziqing just wanted to stay alone. He wanted nobody to disturb his life.

"Can you keep away from me? I don't want to do things with you!" Feng Ziqing often said like this to Wu Mozi. It didn't work. When Mozi saw him, she came near him and stayed with him.

Day after day, they had lunch and dinner together, class together, and went to the library together. Everyone thought they were lovers. Feng Ziqing didn't want to hear such gossips but didn't know how to make Wu Mozi leave him alone. In contrast, Wu Mozi didn't worry. The longer she stays with Feng, the fewer ghosts she saw. She had often been disturbed by ghost and now she felt her life without ghosts was wonderful! Though Feng Ziqing didn't smile often and urged her to leave, she found Feng warm and lovely.

He did feed stray cats with her. When she smiled at him, his face turned red. He gave her cookies when she didn't eat dinner. She likes him.

When they were studying at the library, Wu Mozi asked Feng Ziqing, "Are you still troubled by gossip? I know how you will never feel troubled by gossip,"

Feng Ziqing looked at her strangely and said, "What is that?" "Make the gossip become true. What do you think?" Wu Mozi answered.

Feng Ziqing was lost in thought. He recalled the past months. His life was totally changed. He was accustomed to eating with another person. When Mozi didn't go to the library with him, he would feel a little strange. Since Wu Mozi had entered his life, he had experienced something different and interesting. He felt troubled when Wu Mozi approached him, but he didn't hate her. He just didn't want his life to change. But was change bad? He liked her bright smile.

Feng Ziqing didn't speak for a long time. Wu Mozi assumed he would refuse her. She was disappointed and lowered her head sadly. Suddenly, she heard "Good idea!"

Mozi raised her head. She saw a big smile on the boys' face. That smile was as bright as the sunshine streaming through the window.

"When did you like me?" Mozi asked.

"I have no idea. Maybe after your first smile," Feng replied.

"Will we love each other forever?" Mozi asked Feng.

"I don't know what our future will be, but I feel lucky that I met you now," Feng said happily.

"So do I. Thank you for being in my sky," Mozi smiled and murmured.

Love is great. No matter what the ending is, we all need to appreciate that there was someone who entered our world and left us a beautiful memory.

INVISIBLE LOVE

This winter holiday, my Sister married. Sister and Mother were busy buying wedding supplies. Mother complained that her feet were painful. There were so many things to do. I came to feel that Sister had begun to hate the marriage.

On wedding day, all of us got up early. The cosmetician was helping Sister make up while my parents were entertaining visitors. My parents looked very happy until the groom came to take Sister to the bridal chamber. Mother looked a little angry. She cried and grasped Sister's hand. After giving Sister a red envelope, she left quickly. Father still looked happy and urged them to leave.

When we arrived at the wedding, Sister was dressed in a modern wedding dress not a Chinese traditional dress. She was beautiful. With the wedding march, Sister held Father's hand and walked slowly to her bridegroom. When Father raised Sister's wedding veil, I saw Father's tears. I was shocked. I had never saw Father cry before. He had always been strong and rarely expressed his emotion, especially in front of others. Sister was also shocked. It took Father a long time to control his emotion. Father just loved Sister very much.

Many times, I had thought people do not love us if they never say so. But I was wrong. They just don't express their love in that way. There is no doubt that parents are the ones who love us most.



张宇辰
ZHANG YUCHEN
ZOE

I am Zhang Yuchen, and my English name is Zoe. I was born on 1 March 1997 in Hanzhong, Shaanxi Province, which has one district and 10 counties. I have lived there for 19 years by now but can only go back to spend summer and winter holidays at my home after I entered university.

I was admitted in the best junior middle school in Hanzhong named Hanzhong Experimental Middle School. Three years later, I got A+ grade in the Senior High School Entrance Exam, and went to Hanzhong Senior Middle School, which is associated with my junior middle school. They are deeply meaningful for me because I have the most precious memories of my adolescence there.

I have thought about my career planning in the future. I chose English as a major, and I have strong desire to gain a much higher English ability. I hope I can specialize in a certain field like literature, tourism, or technology, so I can be a qualified translator or get a job in a foreign company. I know clearly that I should not just hope, but do all I can to realize it.

Chi Yan was ecstatic, because he had gotten in touch with his best friend, Qiu Bai, after ten years. Today on New Year's Eve, Qiu Bai told Chi Yan that his flight would arrive before midnight.

Qiu Bai had been brought up in a single parent family. Their neighbor, Chi Yan's parents, often took good care of this unfortunate boy when his mother was out. Afterwards, Qiu Bai and his mother went to live with his aunt overseas. They lost contact. Now Chi Yan was rushing home to share the news with his parents.

At eight PM, the Spring Festival Gala started. Many of Chi Yan's relatives were celebrating together. They chatted loudly, drank recklessly, and played cards delightedly. What typical happiness when a New Year approaches. Chi Yan did not get involved, just waited. The return of his best friend was a more attractive happiness.

At ten, exhaustion gradually spread across everyone's face. The fervid atmosphere calmed. Only the TV sound was audible. Chi Yan called Qiu Bai, but did not get through. "Maybe his phone was out of power," Chi Yan thought, and continued waiting silently.

Five, four, three, two, one. Count-down time ended. The New Year came. Splendid fireworks exploded one after one, lighting the whole dark sky; children ran about, shouting happily, waking up the silent night. Chi Yan's relatives were all eating dumplings and cheering. But he could hear nothing, as if someone had turned off the volume of his world.

"Hello? Is that Mr. Chi? This is Capital Hospital, Mr. Qiu suffered a traffic accident on Airport Road. We could not save him. We are deeply sorry,"

"You must be kidding. It's not funny," Chi Yan thought. He had lost Qiu Bai for ten years. Now he had lost him forever.

GOODBYE, MY LOVE

As every wonderful spring day used to be, today is filled with sunshine and hope. Jing Yao is standing by the soccer field, watching the most familiar figure with a smile on her face. Since childhood, she could find Qi Xiao at first glance, and run to him immediately. Not having waited for a long time, Jing Yao finds her boy rushing to her happily, waving. "How perfect he is, shining like the sun," Jing Yao thinks. "But I am going to leave him,"

Qi Xiao and Jing Yao have become cronies since childhood. Jing Yao was a little shy, and not very involved with other children. Qi Xiao never laughed at her but accompanied her. It was that time when Jing Yao's deep dependence on Qi Xiao was established. As time passed, depending on Qi Xiao became Jing Yao's unconscious behavior. Qi Xiao was also seemed to enjoy in taking care of his "little follower".

"Don't be so hurried. Is the match over? Did you win?" Jing Yao looks into Qi Xiao's eyes like she used to, with her eyes full of love. "Of course I won, have I ever let you down?" Qi Xiao answers confidently, putting his arm on Jing Yao's shoulder, and smiling at her gently. Even the air around them becomes sweet, as if this couple will never separate.

Actually, the College Entrance Exam was the first possibility to cause them separation; however, Jing Yao chose the same university as Qi Xiao, though its superior major did not fit her well. But Jing Yao knew that she could not bear leaving Qi Xiao so early and suddenly. Therefore, both were finally admitted into the finance major of Central University. Before long, they became lovers because of many years of tacit understanding and companionship.

Qi Xiao and Jing Yao shared the wonderful study aura in school library, enjoyed drawing in cafés all afternoon, and lingered in many interesting places in that city, hand in hand. They hugged, kissed, and spoke of how they loved each other. How people envied them! The finance major measured every one equally. Jing Yao went crazy due to the advanced mathematics, which was Qi Xiao's strength. Thus, Jing Yao always had to spend a lot of time understanding what the teacher said because she had chosen liberal art in junior high school. Every

time Jing Yao felt crazy studying advanced math, Qi Xiao taught her patiently, and comforted her by saying that, "Yaoyao, don't push yourself so hard,"

Now, Jing Yao stopped walking, turned to face Qi Xiao, and said "I have something to tell you," Then her thought went to the night that she reflected on their relationship. Jing Yao recalled what had happened between them since childhood that night, and a smile was on her face. Jing Yao knew that she wanted to keep up with Qi Xiao's step, but it was lucky for her to have Qi Xiao waiting for her all the time. However, never doubting their love for each other did not mean that she could not recognize the problem between them. At that moment, Jing Yao finally found that she has loved Qi Xiao in a wrong way. Loving him not only meant following blindly, but made her become excellent to stand by him. Jing Yao lowered her sight, and said, "Let's break up. I want to go abroad to learn design. You know I am interested in drawing," then she looked up.

Beyond Jing Yao's imagination, Qi Xiao looked calm and even gratified, as if he already knew what she was going to say. "Yaoyao, I have waited for you to mature. I realized there were many problems between us, and I'm not sure whether we can get through some uncertain difficulties if we only have this young love. I was afraid of hurting your feelings, so I wanted to wait for you to find the answer, and I knew you would never let me down, too," Qi Xiao was watching her carefully. He remembered the very beginning when they met. Jing Yao was isolated, playing with her toys alone, but still without tears. The inexplicable heroism of a little boy told Qi Xiao that he would not leave her. From then on, Qi Xiao never left Jing Yao alone. The reminiscence finally ends when he looked into Jing Yao's eyes now. Time flies. His little girl had grown so charming, smart, and very attractive.

Qi Xiao smiled, and said, "Yaoyao, it's time for you to chase your own future, to experience new life, a life without me," Jing Yao eventually released and took a deep breath, telling herself how wonderful her boy is. In the end, Qi Xiao embraces her, and kisses her forehead.

"I love you," he says.

"I love you," she says.

Until we are strong enough to face an uncertain future,
good bye, my love. They finally went forward in different
directions.

A DAY I WILL NEVER FORGET

It was during the first month after I entered college. As an individual full of enthusiasm for literature and writing, the approaching interview made me very excited even a week ahead of time.

Finally, destiny day fell. Even if it was only a school club, not a regular periodical office; even if I had prepared for at least a fortnight; even if I had already passed the first-round assessment, I was still nervous. When facing what you really love and are deeply eager for, you behave gingerly and devoutly.

I got well-groomed and stood on the platform, I looked into the examiners' eyes and raised my voice, trying to show confidence and the infinite passion to them. I can recite the two questions I was given. They were not easy or regular, and I was not satisfied with my answers; however, the chief examiner said that I had given them an impressive response, which gave me much encouragement. Maybe luck is really an amazing part of an interview.

As many happy-ending stories go, I finally joined the periodical office, and took the first step in my dream. Though I will have more interview experiences in the future, I am sure that this one will always be the most unforgettable one, because it gave me the determination to realize my dream.



邓怡馨

DENG YIXIN
RACHEL

Having been in your writing class for almost one semester, I have really gained a lot, not only in knowledge, but also in learning methods and my own responsibility for my future. I want to introduce myself to you again.

My Chinese name is Deng Yixin and my English name is Rachel. I was born on 5 December 1996 in Yichuan County, Shaanxi Province. Yichuan County is a beautiful place located in a small valley of the Loess Plateau. I have been deeply influenced by local conventions and customs stressing the value of being an honest, simple, and hardworking person. I attended Yichuan Middle School, which is famous for the strictness of teachers and teaching reform. My experiences in Yichuan Middle School guide me, help me, and tell me how to seek my dream, and encourage me to always try.

Now, as a college student, I realize that I am no longer the little girl without sorrow and anxiety. I must be responsible for my future, or I will accomplish nothing. I love Chinese literature. I hope that I will become a translator in the field of literature.

Talking without action is useless. I've decided to act now. I hope to be a different me in several years.

RUNNING

Fang Tong ran wildly on the sidewalk. Everything around her was so silent and peaceful, which her running and wheezing disturbed. A few people walking by looked at her curiously.

"Crazy!" someone murmured.

It was Spring Festival. Several minutes earlier, she had finished a family reunion dinner with her relatives. Cheers, laughter, conversation, and good wishes lingered in her mind.

Everything had changed so fast.

So unbelievable. So unexpected. So grievous.

No bus and no cab were on such a happy night. She had to run as quickly as possible. She wanted to rest but there was no time. She wanted to talk out but there were no people. She wanted to cry but there was no one to understand her. She had a headache and nausea. She tried to calm down but she couldn't. She longed to meet him, for a last look.

"No time! No time! NO TIME!" Fang Tong said to herself, quickening her pace.

It was only a fifteen-minute drive from her home to the hospital. She had never thought that one day the distance would be so long. She had to rush FASTER, FASTER, FASTER.

"BANG!" she fell.

Several abrasions were on her hands. The pain in her knees was sharp and severe. However, no one was by her.

She tried to stand. Suddenly, the phone rang. She was frightened. She dared not answer. She was afraid of the news. Her body shuddered.

Finally, she pressed the answer key with a stiff finger, and said in a trembling voice, "Hello?"

A minute later, she sank to the ground. Her whole body felt leaden. She couldn't breathe. Her vision blurred. She cried loudly, in the silent street.

Handsome and considerate. An outstanding engineer. A man she loved deeply. They were going to marry. An accident. Gone.

Wandering in the art gallery and enjoying different styles of artistic works, Su Yun was full of happiness and excitement! How difficult it was to buy the ticket! However, there was a more unbelievable thing! That boy! The one that she had been in love with for more than three years was standing near her and concentrating on a work she enjoyed most! She could have paid more attention to it, but couldn't help watching him.

"Yes, that's him. Whenever and wherever he is, as long as I meet him, I must be merely absorbed in him and cannot do anything," Su Yun thought, still staring at him.

Suddenly, he turned towards her, smiled, and said, "Su Yun, you have been staring at me for five minutes,"

"Uh-huh?" Su Yun said, her face suddenly crimson in embarrassment. She stuttered, "No, I...I...I was just looking at the painting. Yeah, just looking at it, not you, not you,"

"Really? You love this work, too?" he queried.

"Yeah, yeah. Um...I suddenly remember that I...I have some assignment to do. So, good-bye," Su Yun said, and fled like an arrow, not hearing clearly what he said.

Like an arrow flying in the dorm room, Su Yun hung her head, upset and fully regretful. She should have talked more about the art work; she should have asked about his likes and dislikes; she should have done more than escaping like an idiot.

"Oh, no! Why was I so spineless in front of him?" she wondered, feeling remorseful. She quickly took up her paintbrush to depict his attractive figure that she had observed in the art gallery. And then she steeped herself in memories.

During a long October Day holiday when she was in senior grade one, there was not much homework and pressure, so she decided to travel. Filled with curiosity, Su Yun determined to visit Central University, which she thought would never admit her. She wandered on the campus and noticed him, Song Yi. Dressed in a white shirt and blue jeans, seated on a lawn casually, he was reading a book carefully, even with his eyebrows a little wrinkled, as if thinking about something

seriously. In that instant, she felt her heart almost stop beating. She knew, she had flipped. It was the first time she had seen him. She gazed at him from a distance, and never withdrew her eyes. She kept this love as a secret in her heart.

After that, in order to meet him again at Central University, she focused all her attention on study. Luckily, she succeeded, as an art student. When she received the letter of admission, she was so excited, imagining her future with Song Yi. However, things did not go smoothly.

After entering college, she secretly learnt about him in various ways. No one knew she loved him except Fang Lin, her roommate and best friend. Due to a great inferiority complex, she didn't dare to express her love to Song Yi or confess her love to others. Therefore, she had to accompany him as an ordinary friend. She joined a club he was in, took classes he took, enjoyed the sweet and sour spare ribs he enjoyed, and studied in the library study room he was often in. She did this to meet him and drew him with her paintbrush. It was enough for her.

She had never thought they would be lovers, because there was a girl, Mo Qingyang, who she felt was superior to her in appearance, character, hobbies, and so on. Therefore, she became more unconfident. When she met Song Yi, Mo Qingyang was usually with him, chatting, studying, working, and laughing. Having become partners in the club since they were freshmen, they were considered the best matched "lovers". How could she believe that he would love an ugly duckling like her?

The painting was almost finished. The telephone rings interrupted her mind. IT IS SONG YI! She was so nervous that her hand shook when she answered the phone.

"Hello?" she said.

"Hi, Su Yun. This is Song Yi. You know, I am about to graduate soon. I wonder if you can come out with us. Um...We will have a picnic this Saturday," Song Yi said.

"With whom?" she asked, her voice trembling, trying to speak as little as possible.

"All the club members. You know all of them," he answered.

"OK, I will go," she said, endeavoring to calm down.

"Great! I'll pick you up on Saturday. See you!" Song Yi said.

"Bye!" she said, quickly hanging up.

"Yes, it is the last time that I can express my love for him. I MUST DO IT! Even once, or I will lose my chance." Determined to bare her heart, Su Yun asked Fang Lin for help get dressed and prepared her drawings of him.

D-Day was coming!

"You look so different today!" Song Yi said, surprised at her change.

"There's nothing different. Hah... I just put on a dress," Su Yun demurred, with her most charming smile.

"OK. Here we go!" Song Yi said, taking her bag.

Su Yun quickly avoided his hand and said, "Oh, I can do it by myself,"

"Hah...OK, OK," he said with a smile.

Before long, they reached the destination, Central Lake. The other members had prepared various foods and started cooking by the shore. Having nothing to do, Song Yi and Su Yun went to a bridge.

"IT IS TIME! IT IS TIME!" Su Yun shouted in her mind, but was still too nervous to say a word, tightly clinging to her bag.

"Actually, I love this kind of scenery. Do you remember last time what we saw in the gallery? The painting I really liked is this kind of style—mountains, a lake, a bridge, buildings, couples, and sunshine. Great, isn't it?" Song Yi asked, enjoying the beauty.

"Yes, it's like my hometown, which is why I love it so much," Su Yun answered.

"I really hope someone could be with me in such a place," Song Yi said and smiled at her.

"His smile is like sunshine!" she thought, as her heart skipped a beat at moment.

"I met a girl..." he said.

"Song Yi, come here!" Mo Qingyang interrupted.

"I'll be back soon," Song Yi said and ran to her, leaving a notebook beside Su Yun.

She opened it. The endpaper read, "To my sunshine girl: I have been in love with you for five years,"

"Sunshine girl? Five years?" Su Yun was shocked. "He has loved

Mo Qingyang for five years? Why I am so confident that he may love me? That's ridiculous!" She wept, and stared blankly. "Maybe leaving him could be a more appropriate choice,"

In fact, she had applied for voluntary teaching in a mountain area and Saturday was the time to leave. Everything was ready. She stared at Song Yi, and said quietly, "See you, my boy! Find your true love," Leaving her paintings, she left, quietly.

She didn't know that in the notebook there was a photo, where a girl was smiling on the bridge of her hometown lake, like sunshine. Her name was Su Yun. She also didn't know that this picnic was for her and he was prepared to show his five-year secret love.

Would she know about it? Would she still love him? Would they be lovers? That's not certain. However, he was still waiting for her in such a place, with mountains, a lake, a bridge, buildings, and sunshine. If she came back, he would never let her go!

A SONG BELONGING TO US

We will meet so many people in our lives. Some are just nodding acquaintances; some are close friends. Those close friends may become important people in our lives. However, what will be done if we are in a "cold war"?

Once I had a terrible quarrel with my best friend. After that, we got into a "cold war". The reason why we quarreled may be just misunderstandings or divergences, which is not so significant that I cannot even remember it. What I still clearly remember is that we were like strangers in that period. We did not talk with each other; we did not have supper together; we did not go home together after school. In a word, we did not do anything together like before. We acted indifferently when we met, but we both wept when we were alone.

The "antidote" to the deadlock was a song we both loved and usually listened to together. Several days later, I could not stand that state between us anymore. So I went to her and put one of my earbuds into her ear. We began to listen to the same song. We kept silent for a long time, like one century. She buried her head in books. I thought she was doing her homework all the time, but I was proved wrong at once. She was sobbing! Then we both cried, and suddenly laughed, listening to the song repeatedly.

We ought to learn something from incidents between close friends. The quarrel between people is unavoidable. Nevertheless, if the ones we quarrel with are important in our life, try lowering our head first. It is not shameful but great, because we save a vital and indispensable relationship. And we do not need to do so many things. Using something special or meaningful between friends is enough, then we can gain unexpected happiness.



梁孙蒙
LIANG SUNMENG
AMELIE

As time passes, it has come to the end of this semester. I want to introduce myself to you so that you can remember me well.

My name is Liang Sunmeng and my English name is Amelie. I was born in Sanyuan County, Shaanxi Province on 20 April 1997. I lived in the place where I was born for eighteen years before I went to university.

Sanyuan Nanjiao Senior High school sits on the south side of my hometown. It is a key high middle school. Three years of high school campus life was very busy, full of stress, and was a major turning point of my life.

I have many dreams. I want to be a translator and have a steady job. I want to travel all over the world with my parents and friends. I also hope my parents are in good health. I am aware of the difference between dreams and reality. I will make the most of my time and work hard.

In my first writing assignment, I wrote that I was very fortunate to meet you and I believed that some key changes would take place in my writing. I still think that. Thank you for your teaching.

GORGEOUS FIREWORKS

Xiao Long was born in a poor family. His parents were farmers who lived by farming and herding. Xiao Long was precocious and helped his parents every day after school by washing clothes, cleaning the rooms, and so on. He was a good student as well. He knew only knowledge can change his fate and improve his family's condition.

He was obedient. His parents said he was their pride. His parents tried their best to meet Xiao Long's demands. To provide him with good study surroundings, they did not dare to speak loudly when Xiao Long did his homework.

As a child, Xiao Long liked to make fireworks during Spring Festival. To his sad, his parents had no spare money to buy fireworks. His mother knew that he had been hoping to play fireworks. She wanted to give Xiao Long a surprise on Spring Festival.

The weather was very bad on Lunar New Year Eve. Heavy snowfall made walking hard and accidents happened more easily. Xiao Long's mother went out to buy fireworks despite such terrible weather. Xiao Long's home was in a small village at the foot of a mountain no fireworks were sold there. His mother had to climb over a mountain. The road was slippery with snow and rugged. Sadly, Xiao Long's mother fell, hit her head on a stone and become unconscious. Fortunately, a fellow villager found her and took her to the hospital, and then called her families and relatives. However, Xiao Long's mother died after three days.

Twenty years later, through his own efforts, Xiao Long became a lawyer and made a good living. He lived in Beijing with his father. He could afford fireworks. During Spring Festival, the streets beside Xiao Long's home were crowded with people. There were gorgeous fireworks in the sky. However, Xiao Long hid in a lonely room, avoiding others.

A SWEET MEMORY

A heavy rain ceased. A refreshing smell after the rain with a mixed aroma from the dining hall, Jing walked on the campus where she had lived for four years. Seeing students busy with their courses, she thought of her college life. She recalled when she first came to Central University. At that time, she had been a naive girl curious about everything. She had spent one year studying and finally had come to the best university in China as she had dreamed. Everything had delighted her. The campus was graceful and solemn, the dormitory was comfortable, and so on. Though knowing nothing about her future, she had a better vision of college life. "What a wonderful time it was!" she exclaimed.

When she saw a pair of lovers draw near and talk about something that they were both interested in, she could not help thinking of Ming and Mu, who have come to her youth and give a sweet memory to her. Youth is a time is of loving and giving, sincerely and fearlessly, without fear or calculation. Jing never regretted meeting Ming and Mu, because it was them who magically changed the chapters of her youth. The relationship between Jing, Ming, and Mu is not friendship, of course is not love as well. She even cannot remember what they said and what they did during the youth. What remained in her mind of the best time are their appearances. Besides, the experiences with pure love that she would treasure forever made her better and had taught her how to love.

Freshmen military training was during very hot weather. It was hard and painful. Jing was weakness so she was often distressed during military training.

One hot afternoon, she looked pale. She was going to fainted. She was unable to complete the training. The instructor asked a boy to take her to the school clinic.

This handsome boy walked by her, holding her bag in one hand and her arm in the other. That was the first time she met with him. Afterwards, she was well disposed towards him and hoped she could meet him again and have an opportunity to talk with him. She did not know what wrong with her and she did not know whether the feeling

was love. She tried to find him in campus, but did not.

After the twenty-day military training ordeal was over, she was depressed because she did not have a chance to see him. Gradually, the flipping heart calmed down. She paid more attention to her courses and club activities. She whispered to herself, "I have my own life. I should study hard,"

As time went on, study pressure, relationship matters, and even college life itself, did not go well. She had to take time and effort to adapt and solve problems. She had no time to think about love and her feelings about the boy. She did not even know his name!

The college was prepared to hold an English-Speaking Contest. Jing signed up. To her surprise, she met the boy who helped her during military training in the finals. She was excited, perturbed, and nervous. She greeted him and was gratified that he remembered her. They talked a lot that night. Both had interests in English and traditional Chinese culture. She learned his name was Mu. She thought Mu was the most beautiful name in the world. She also learned Mu often went to the library to study. She then went to the library to find if Mu was here and where he sat. Then, she would have pretended to come in and sit by him, and study, she thought it was a happy thing that she could sit beside him.

She made changes again. Finally, Mu expressed his love for Jing at Christmas. Jing accepted without hesitation. She was the happiest person in the world.

It was first love for them both. They did not know how to get along with each other well and were not able to tolerate defects. They were soon fought over trifles. Mu had much to do and did not have enough time to spend with Jing. Mu also was careless and could not appreciate Jing's little emotional changes.

Jing was sensitive and if Mu did not reply to her messages promptly, she thought he did not care about her.

Jing was very sad when she quarreled with Mu.

At that time, Ming, Mu's classmate, comforted Jing. Jing did not realize Ming fell in love with her at first sight.

Mu and Jing soon broke up. Jing could not forget Mu for a long time because he was her first love. Meanwhile, Ming liked Jing but Jing just regarded him as a friend at first.

Ming did everything for Jing, such as getting in line to buy food, fetching water, occupying seats, and so on. Jing refused his interest. She said to him, "I still love Mu, though we broke up. I cannot forget him,"

Ming promised, "I will always be here when you need me, even if you did not like me," They spared no effort to prepare for the Postgraduate Entrance Exam during their third year in college. Afterwards when Jing found that she was in love with Ming, they had to go to different cities.

Eventually, Ming and Mu both found their true love and Jing also had her own life. They later viewed their campus lives as a sweet memory.

Though all of them are in different places and have their own families now, they also keep in touch with each other. They will travel together at the same times each year and share their daily life. They will face with the troubles in the life and cheer each other. What the youth left in their minds is love and beauty. All of them regarded their campus lives as a sweet memory.

A SIGNIFICANT DAY

It I got my first salary. It was the summer vacation and I was in high school. At that time, I was a little girl and I wanted to do just because of passing passion. Not knowing the realities of work, I agreed when my mother asked me if I was willing to take a part-time job. Several days later, I found a job passing out leaflets and putting up posters. The employer also hired other girls and paid us fifty yuan per day. Since it was summer, the sun was burning. The weather was extremely hot. I started my first job, carrying a bag which was loaded with leaflets and a bottle of water. Initially, I did not realize the difficulties that I would face. I felt a great sense of accomplishment after I handed out the one third of the leaflets. However, with the increasing heat, I felt weary. Worse, fewer and fewer people were willing to take the leaflets. This made me frustrated and tired. It was burning hot, a hot wind was blowing, and people were indifferent. Everything became increasingly terrible. For the first time, I realized that earning money was so difficult. Fortunately, the girl who was working with me encouraged me. I rested for a bit and changed my attitude. I felt better. Finally, I finished and got my first payment.

It was my first work experience and made me understand what pain and gain are and how they are related.



张霞

ZHANG XIA
LUCY

My Chinese name is Zhang Xia, and Lucy is my English name. I was born in 1995, in Yulin City, Shaanxi Province. This city is rich in mineral resources, which provide a solid base for the modernization of Yuli City. Recently, Yulin City's economy is developing at full speed. My hometown has four seasons. Spring is warm, summer is hot, autumn is cool, and winter is cold. Spring and autumn always bring a strong wind with sand because of climatic variations, human activities and land desertification, so I do not like those two seasons.

I attended Jingbian Middle School. It was a modern and distinctive provincial principle middle school established in 1956. Students here are meticulous and serious, and teachers are very strict to students. I miss my teachers and schoolmates.

I want to be a professor. I am good at history and my English is very poor, so I hope I can teach students history. Sometimes I am shy and lack self-confidence. When I speak in class, my face turns red and my heart beats fast. I am depressed about these limitations. I also need practice experience and I look forward to improving my English and knowledge of history.

A PANIC MOMENT

Five, four, ..., one," he looked at these numbers displayed on his cell phone. Yes, his cell phone was turned off, but he would reach his destination in thirty minutes.

Spring Festival was coming. He was on a train going home to celebrate with his parents and relatives, like other undergraduates. He was very excited and did not know how to spend the next thirty minutes.

Meanwhile, two people next to him talked about a person who had had a car accident and was undergoing an emergency procedure in a hospital. He usually did not care about such news, but now he was bored and his cell phone battery was dead. He decided to listen.

The injured girl was Chen. On her way to a train station to meet her older brother, she had been in a car accident.

Now the police were calling her family.

Suddenly he became very frightened. His young sister would pick him up and his family name was Chen. He wanted to make sure who that person was.

He took a deep breath and tried to keep calm, but without effect. He could not shake a picture about the car accident from his mind. His hands moved without his control. His palms dripped with sweat.

He wanted to borrow a cell phone from others. He coughed, hoping his voice was clear.

"Excuse..." he said.

"We are arriving at the terminus of this line. Please ensure you have all your belongings with you and get ready to disembark. Thanks, you," a voice interrupted.

"Maybe I should phone my sister after leaving the train station," he thought.

After passing through security check, he heard someone call him.

WAITING FOR YOUR RETURN

In the early morning, Fangfang put on her white blouse and red skirt. When she finished, she resembled a beautiful princess. She and Xiaocheng had an appointment, which is why she got up early.

Fangfang's childhood sweetheart was Xiaocheng. The pressure of the college entrance examination meant that Fangfang was not with Xiaocheng when they were high school students. When they entered university, they became sweethearts again. Fangfang had fallen in love with Xiaocheng when she was a child. She thought Xiaocheng also loved her.

Dongdong was Fangfang's best friend. When she saw dressed-up Fangfang, she laughed and said, "What a beautiful girl! You must be the prettiest girl that I have ever seen. Please marry me,"

"Oh, stop it! You know it is important for me to celebrate this anniversary with Xiaocheng, so I am very nervous now," Fangfang said.

"I know it is important for you, but your dress is very lovely. It is time for you to go, I see," Dongdong said and smiled.

"I will have to leave," Fangfang said.

Finally, Dongdong decided to send Fangfang to go out to keep the appointment with Xiaocheng and put her at ease.

Like other lovers, Fangfang and Xiaocheng ate lunch and watched a new movie. Then they held hands and took a walk along a narrow path in the park, where they kissed. Finally, Xiaocheng escorted Fangfang to her dorm.

When Fangfang opened the door, she found that there was no one in her room. She felt very tired, so she was determined to sleep a bit.

Fangfang was awakened by Dongdong about an hour ago.

"Did something happen with you and Xiaocheng? Did you have a fight?" Dongdong said seriously.

"What? Are you kidding? We are very happy,"

"But I saw Xiaocheng holding a girl's hand, coming out from a restaurant just now. I know you may not believe me. But I swear on my life this is 100% real, I followed them all the time,"

This shocked Fangfang. She tried to keep calm. After a long

time, she felt quiet and said, "I cannot believe it. I am very confident in our relationship. We are childhood sweethearts. My parents are his parents' best friends. If he betrayed me, his mother would angry with him,"

When Fangfang said that, she cried. She was at a loss.

Dongdong gave Fangfang a hug to comfort her.

"It's probably. Maybe it's just a misunderstanding," Dongdong said.

"Yes, yes, I also think it's just a misunderstanding," Fangfang said and nodded.

Fangfang and Dongdong never talked about this again after that night. Fangfang went on the date with Xiaocheng as before, but Dongdong felt that Fangfang faked her smiles.

Winter was coming soon. When the first snow came, Fangfang sobbed suddenly. Dongdong knew maybe Xiaocheng had betrayed Fangfang. If Fangfang and Xiaocheng solved the problem, they might break up or not.

"Dongdong, can you help me? My heart is bleeding. I do not know what to do," Fangfang said sadly, looking like an orphaned child.

"Don't cry. What happened? Tell me!" Dongdong said softly.

"I went shopping and saw Xiancheng with his arm around a beautiful girl. She is the campus belle, Lili. I asked my friend, Xu Mo, and he said that Xiaocheng and Lili had been gotten together for a long time. I do not want to break up with Xiaocheng. I do not know how to deal with this problem. What should I do, Dongdong?" Fangfang said sorrowfully.

"You can talk with him and Lili. You are his official girlfriend. You could also tell his mother," Dongdong suggested.

"I have been waiting for him. I hoping he would contact me, but he has not. Maybe later I should talk with him," said Fangfang.

Several days later, Fangfang wore a smile. Dongdong learned that Fangfang and Xiaocheng had resolved their differences. Dongdong was glad for them.

One night Dongdong and Fangfang took a walk in the park. Dongdong wanted to eat a snack and ran to buy it. Suddenly, Fangfang saw a man and a woman on the grass, enjoying a drink using the same cup. Her face turned white when she saw the man's face. The man was

Xiaocheng. She could hardly believe her eyes. He had promised that he would not have affairs three months earlier. Tears came from the corner of her eyes, and then ran down her cheek. "Maybe he does not love me," she thought.

When she was about to leave, Xiaocheng saw her. He stood, shouted, and ran to her. Fangfang left quickly and painfully. Aware that Xiaocheng would have other girls in the future and would never be faithful. She knew what should she do.

Fangfang became more quiet and worked harder than before. She went to the library at eight AM and did not come back until ten PM. A year ago, she passed TOEFL. Meanwhile, Xiaocheng has come several times to ask her to come back to him. Fangfang always refused. After several attempts, he stopped coming.

Fangfang went abroad with Xu Mo. She did not know when she would return. But it doesn't matter, because she does not miss Xiaocheng.

After Fangfang left a long time, Xiancheng knew that she has gotten abroad. When he learned the news, he could not believe it. He called Dongdong to verify. He thought Fangfang would wait for him forever, but now she had left. He was very repentant. He decided to spend his time waiting and suffering, hoping that Fangfang would return tomorrow or the day after tomorrow.

AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

In my life, there are a lot of interesting experiences. I think the experience I learned how to make dumplings is the most unforgettable and the most precious one, and I want to share it with everyone.

My grandmother got up early as usual, and then she began to knead the dough to make dumplings. When she finished it, my sister I got up tardily. My grandmother asked us to roll the dough into small, thin, and round pieces. And then we made a lot of dumplings wrappers. As a demonstration, my grandmother made them into dumplings. Then we started to make dumplings. My dumpling resembled a mouse, and my sister's dumplings were like a stone. Though our dumplings looked very terrible and ugly, we did not give up. The dough was soft, and the filling was superb, so I thought our dumplings must be very delicious. When I saw saw my sister's face was streaked by some flour, I could not help laughing. Finally, I learned to how to make dumplings and ate delicious dumplings. Although tired very much, we were happy and joyful. That is my unforgettable experience. And I think every have their precious experiences in their life path.



张结培

ZHANG JIEPEI
ZACK

I was born in Xining City, Qinghai Province. Xining is the one of the coolest cities in summer in China because of its relatively high altitude of 2,200 meters. I was born on 8 October 1996. I attended Xining No. Four Senior Middle School.

Forty years ago, my grandparents and my father left their home Suzhou, Jiangsu and settled in Qinghai. Qinghai is my father's second hometown. I tell others that I come from Suzhou because Suzhou is where my family's roots are.

I hoped I can earn enough money to care for my parents. They are in poor health. Before I graduate from school and get a job, I need to get much knowledge to support myself. English is a tool for communication, but also a key to understand the world. I want to be a broad-minded person. I want to know more about different cultures. The most important thing I can do is to study English well.

He was killed in an accident. The drivers who ran over him escaped. He took his last breath in a hospital. A kind taxi driver noticed him lying on the ground covered in blood. He still had a pulse. The taxi driver, Zhang Wei, called an ambulance immediately. He was heading home to be with his family for Spring Festival. Zhang Wei wanted to get home early to be with his family. On the way home, he met a poor man dying on the ground. He wouldn't get home early because he would have to go to the police station and provide what information he knew for the policemen.

Wang Kai worked hard to make ends meet. He had a big family. There were four mouths to feed. His old mother was sick. His three children were all at school. His wife had left him because he was poor. He had no other relatives. He was a poor paid construction worker. He didn't get his salary from his boss. "How can we celebrate Spring Festival with no food to eat," he thought.

While he was crossing a street, a car hit him. It didn't stop. Nobody knew that the driver who ran over him was his boss. Wang Kai's boss tried to kill Wang Kai deliberately because he didn't want to pay his salary. But Wang Kai didn't die. While he was trying to get up another car hit him. He couldn't move. He was dying. He was thinking, "My family is waiting for me. I won't die,"

One week later the policemen arrested the suspect. The suspect was the man who gave Wang Kai the second hit. Wang Kai's boss hoped the story was end. But the story continues...

There were many students at Central University. It was the first day for freshmen. Li Shan began his new life in an unknown place. He would have various experiences at university. Li Shan majored in biology. He was smart, confident and a little arrogant. Oh, I nearly forget that he thought that he could speak English better than others. Actually, he was not overly tiresome. He had not hurt anybody and worked hard at his studies.

He introduced himself when students of the same major got together the first time. "My English is very nice and I can help you solve any problem in English," he said proudly in English. Then he translated into Chinese.

It was an unforgettable Friday. It was the first public lesson in his college years. Students in different majors got together to have a common lesson in a big classroom.

A teacher asked a question. A girl stood and answered. Li Shan heard the answer and look at the girl. "Interesting," he thought. He didn't notice her appearance but he remembered her voice. In the evening, Li Shan joined an English corner held by a foreigner teacher. He made conversations with others. While he was chatting with a beautiful girl something interesting happened. He recognized a charming voice and something dawned the girl talking to him had answered the teacher's question. Her name was Zhao Shishi.

Li Shan often met her at common lessons and at English corners. Thinking that he was not remarkable, he never told her that he loved her. These thoughts were deep in his mind, but this didn't mean that he didn't show his love. Every time he saw her, he heard his heart beating violently. His face burnt when Zhao Shishi saw him, though he pretended nothing had happened.

He kept his feeling secret. He never told anybody and led his life usual. He liked chatting with his classmates. Qin Xia chatted with him a lot. They were both interested in the Mendelian factor method and they explored other studies together. He regarded Qin Xia as a friend. Qin Xia was not very attractive and could not appeal to him. They still spent beautiful times together.

Once at an English corner he chatted with Zhao Shishi happily. He learned that she liked movie. He was excited to know more about her. He thought he would be the happiest man in the world, if he could live with her in the future.

One awkward Saturday, Li Shan bought two movie tickets wanting to invite Zhao Shishi to see the movie. He phoned Zhao Shishi. Zhao Shishi didn't answer. "She must be busy with something important," he thought. After a few minutes, he planned to call her again, but didn't. "What if she feels embarrassed," he thought. Inadvisably he rang Qin Xia.

"Hey Qin Xia, do you want to go see a movie with me? I have two movie tickets," he said.

"Sure, awesome!"

They watched the movie together. It was a wonderful movie, but they never expected what would happen afterwards. It would be unforgettable and heart-breaking.

On the way to school, Central University, Qin Xia said shyly.

"I appreciate that you invited me to that wonderful movie. It is the most wonderful movie I have ever seen,"

"I don't think so," said Li Shan. He didn't seem interested. He felt sleepy when he watched the movie.

"Anyway, thank you. You are very nice," said Qin Xia.

"Is she hinting at something? I don't want to create any misunderstanding," Li Shan thought. "To tell you the truth, it's a bad movie. It made me feel sleepy," he said caustically.

"OK, let's skip that movie. Maybe we should have some ice-cream or something. We need to talk," said Qin Xia.

"No need for ice-cream. Just speak. I'm listening," said Li Shan.

Qin Xia said, "It's nice to go around with you. You are very nice. I always dream of going outside with you, like today we do....."

Li Shan interrupted, "What on earth do you want to say?"

"Do you think I'm tiresome?" said Qin Xia.

"Come on, I don't know what you are saying," said Li Shan.

Qin Xia murmured, "If we could be lovers, it would be wonderful,"

"What? Impossible! I love another girl. We are just friends," said Li Shan.

"Why did you invite me to watch a movie?" Qin Xia asked.

"I didn't want to waste my money. You asked me if you were tiresome. Yes. Don't flatter yourself. You are not brilliant. You made such an awkward Saturday," said Li Shan.

Both were silent.

"Now we don't have any relationship, right?" said Qin Xia.

"Sure. Bye," said Li Shan ...

One day, Li Shan bought another two movie tickets and invited Zhao Shishi. Then they became lovers. They ate lunch together every noon. And he paid for every meal. This made him feel good, because he imagined himself to be a gentleman. There were few generous people like him.

Gradually, however he found there were many differences between them. Zhao Shishi didn't know anything about Li's interests. She liked shopping. She went out with Li Shan every weekend for shopping. Li Shan was willing to spend money for her. But it bored him. He realized Zhao Shishi was not as perfect as he had imagined. Still, he didn't intend to break up with her because he always thought that have a girlfriend was better than no girlfriend.

Li Shan learnt later that Zhao Shishi has an affair with another boy. It really hurt him. He broke up with her. He was alone. He was trapped in his memory and asked himself, "Why did Zhao Shishi cheat me?" He thought he was the victim. Gradually, he understood that Zhao Shishi loved his money. They just needed each other. Li Shan needed a beautiful girlfriend and Zhao Shishi needed money.

One day Li Shan found that he was not the only victim. He had hurt Qin Xia and regretted what he had said to Qin Xia.

But he didn't change. He was still stupid and selfish.

He met with Qin Xia again.

"I am so sorry for what I said," said Li Shan.

"No need to apologize. We are fine now, aren't we?" Qin Xia said.

"Can I be your boyfriend? I now understand you are a nice girl," said Li Shan.

"I have a good boyfriend now. He treats me well," said Qin Xia.

Qin Xia told the truth to Li Shan. She was very happy with his boyfriend.

Li Shan truly understood that love waits for no man.

MY DORMITORY LIFE

I studied at a boarding school when I was a senior high school student. I live with my roommates together. After we finished our self-study lessons in the evening we went to our dormitory and rested. We had two hours of free time before we went to bed. We usually use this time to get washed up and prepare the new lessons. But at the beginning (the first year we came to the senior high school) we are all curious about others and always talk to others. And sadly, we didn't know how to control the time. We lost much precious time. Before we began to get washed up we would like to make long conversations so that we don't have any time to prepare or review our lessons. After we all finished getting washed up. We lay in bed and kept talking about our topics instead sleeping. Time passed away we fell asleep finally. After a very short time the alarm clock went off. We all got up with unwilling feelings. I guessed that they must be very tired. Because they fell asleep in my class. In the evening, we went back to our dormitory and kept talking. I am very surprised that they are all very energetic. The same situation happened again at that night. Then that situation happened many times. One day I learned that they all fell asleep in class therefor they had energy to make conversations in the dormitory. I always felt very tired. And I always regretted for what I did in the dormitory.

One night, I said, "We should sleep earlier or we will have bad grades" I said. Then we had a good sleep that night. After that night, my roommates made conversations again. In order to have a better future I asked the dormitory manager to change a quiet dormitory for me. After that the "topic night" never happened.

"The environment is very important for a person. You always should choose a suitable environment for yourself. Because the environment may decide your future. And cherish time is a right thing. The two things are very important for yourself," The words always hovered in my mind.



鲁 敏
LU MIN
EVE

My name is Lu Min. I was born in 1998. At present, I study in Shaanxi Normal University. My major is translation. On the twenty-third day of the third lunar month in 1997, I was born in a small village of Hanzhong City, Shaanxi Province, which is in the center of China. I was named Min by my father. This name suggests auspiciousness. From my birth, I have been living in Hanzhong, where I experienced most of my school life. I attended Xixiang No. 1 Middle School before I entering university. I have made some good friends and respectable teachers there and acquired valuable knowledge.

There are four people in my family - my parents, my little brother, and me. My parents are farmers. They work hard to support our family. Both think that education is vital for my career. They are not rich, but try their best to instruct me and support my further education.

From my early years, I have been looking forward to being a teacher. That hasn't changed. This occupation suits me, and I like to deal with innocent students. I will improve myself to try to be a qualified teacher.

DEATH AND REBIRTH

It is snowing. Snowflakes dance in the air. Every house is decorated with red lanterns and full of festive atmosphere. Spring Festival is coming! In contrast, in Liu Cuicui's house it is as always the same ordinary, quiet, and cold. Today is Chinese New Years' Eve. There are only two children in the home, Cuicui and her little brother, Shuisheng. Their father did not come back home last night. Seven years ago, their mother ended her life, leaving them two uncared for. Fourteen now, Cuicui is the top student in school. Many teachers like her. Her father is a notorious gambler. He is incompetent, brags and drinks too much. When Cuicui's mother was alive, he treated her badly when he was drunk. Relatives separated them. Although their family is a complete mess, Cuicui is full of hope. At least, she has a family. Night falls, but Father has not returned. Cuicui and Shuisheng have a big dumping meal. It is cold in the room. Cuicui thinks that father won't return. She and Shuisheng decide to go to bed. Listening to the noise outside, Cuicui falls in sleep gradually. She has a sweet dream and a smile turns up her mouth. Next day, Cuicui prepares breakfast. She shouts to Shuisheng, asking him to get up. Much time later, Shuisheng has not moved. Cuicui enters the room. She finds Shuisheng has woken up. Father lies beside Shuisheng. "I can't wake Dad up," Shuisheng tells her.

In the dead of night, their drunken father died, deep in silent sleep forever, with no one knowing the precise moment.

Having finished everything, Cuicui left the hospital, wandering outside. She is confused about where to go, in spite of an unusual feeling of freedom.

Youth will become lost sometime. They can't perceive what is valuable. Because of impulse, they may make some bad decisions. The results of terrible choices are incurable, especially with regard to affection. Those who did not meet at an appropriate time are doomed to separate. However, we had never realized the profound mystery until we experienced it.

It began on one bright beautiful afternoon full of warm sunshine at Central University.

Jing Chumo and Su Qingzhi were new students here. Jing Chumo, a young genius, was admitted with excellent grades. He majored in mathematics, one of the best majors at the university. His father worked as a professor at another college. His mother was a talented musician. His family background as well as the education he received created such an outstanding person. When he entered university, his erudition and good looks fascinated many ladies.

After the first few days of registration, campus life became familiar. On an ordinary afternoon, after basketball training, Jing Chumo was about to leave the court for the dormitory. Immediately he went out the gym and chatted with his friends, "If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain; if I can ease one life the aching... I shall not live in vain..." from afar came the soft voice reading an English poem, most pleasantly against the background music over the campus radio. Jing Chumo closed his eyes for a moment. When he opened his eyes, his face lit up as through a match had been lit in a dark room. His thoughts seemed to linger over that special voice. There was no doubt that voice had made a deep impression.

Several days later, various extracurricular activities started. Jing Chumo took part in the photography club. Fate unexpectedly intervened and Jing Chumo met the girl whose voice had attracted him. Su Qingzhi, a pretty and intelligent woman, was also a freshman. She was quiet and standoffish. Luckily, they soon became partners and often worked together. Jing Chumo oversaw taking photos while Su Qingzhi was responsible for writing. Sometimes, Jing Chumo liked making hilarious actions and using jokes to amuse Qingzhi. When she

was wreathed in smiles, he felt happy. Gradually, they became more intimate.

A month past quickly. National Holiday was coming. Jing Chumo decided to stay in the city and had a simple trip. Su Qingzhi was a local person, and Jing Chumo asked her to be his guide and travel with him. They set out to a history museum, viewing cultural relics and listening to her clear introduce. Then Su Qingzhi led him to enjoy some special snack. Finally, he proposed they go to a famous playground, and she agreed.

The last event was a roller coaster. This was breathtaking and stimulating. By this time night had fallen. "I love you, Qingzhi," Jing Chumo said, revealing his inner feelings. He whispered *Everything I Do* (a song) in her ear with wild eyes.

She felt the strange beast that had slumbered so long within her bosom began to stir. This sentence and his low, deep voice was like a magical spell, encircling Su Qingzhi forever. It was so beautiful like a dream.

They embarked on a romantic relationship then. Of course, they were passionately in love. They spent time together to study and keep each other company. At times, they just looked at each other without words, like they felt their souls were locked in an embrace.

It was a wonderful afternoon, they sat on a lawn. She put her face on his lap. He said sincerely, "I know I am going to love you too much. How I wish that you were smaller and I could take you with me everywhere,"

"If one day, I can't accompany you out, will you stay behind with me?" Qingzhi asked.

"What I really want is to be a sort of carpet, for you to walk on so that you need not be hurt by the sharp stones and the mud that you hated. For you, a thousand times over," he continued. "You are the only person in the world who I want to hug and kiss,"

If only that happiness had remained at that moment. Time went fast. Quickly, they became juniors. Jing Chumo began to busily prepare to study abroad and pursue his dream. He wanted Su Qingzhi to go with him, who disagrees. She was a conservative woman and thought she could not adjust to new environments.

Jing Chumo tried to persuade her. They wrangled and parted on bad terms. Jing Chumo thought they would calm down with time passing by.

At the same time, Qingzhi learned that her mother was committed suicide because of her father's improper behavior and her father wanting a divorce. This grievous news came like a bolt from the blue. Luckily, her mom was rescued immediately. Qingzhi accompanied her mom and took good care of her. Two days later, her mom regained consciousness eventually, but became nervous breakdown and excessively dependent on her only daughter. Qingzhi had no choice but to defer her study and stay with her mum.

After a month, Qingzhi came back to school and went through the formalities to suspend her study. Later, she called Jing Chumo to make an appointment with him. She was exhausted. Her calls went unanswered, however. She then decided to wait him near his dormitory building.

It was raining and Jing Chumo did not return. As Su Qingzhi was about to leave, she saw a man opening an umbrella and hold a woman in his arms. Her former boyfriend! He also noticed her soon. They stopped and looked at each other without words. Su Qingzhi brushed past him calmly. Her tears fell like rain. She understood that he was an elusive wind and would never stay at the same place. He preferred pursuing his dream to staying behind with her.

Ten years later, Jing Chumo lived in America lonely. He had found his place in life and achieved so-called success. Somehow, he decided to return home. Standing at the same college, he was told that Su Qingzhi went to France with her mom. Then no one knew the news about them.

FIRST TAOBAO EXPERIENCE

With the development of the Internet, Taobao has become a popular online shop in China. Increasingly people choose it because of its convenience as well as comprehensive goods. The first experience on Taobao left me profound impression and unforgettable lesson.

When I entered senior middle school, I was ready to purchase the latest version of Modern Chinese Dictionary as a reference to help my study. Thinking of the matter that I had never used Taobao before, I resolved to have a try. After selecting the dictionary for days, I finally picked up two stores on Taobao, one of which sold 105 yuan while the other cost only 85 yuan and shipping included. There is no doubt that the low price is a big lure for common people including me. Three days later, I received the message which told me the arrival of my package and reminded that I had to sign for it. Happy and excited, I took the package as soon as possible and opened it. However, the work did not go on as I expected. Both the cover and the pages of the dictionary looked a little old and I even suspected it was second-hand. What's worse, the dictionary was pirated and a mass of obvious mistakes appeared, such as the repeat and loss of pages, which enraged me deeply. This was a deadly blow to an important reference book and I had no choice but to buy another, which would waste more time and money.

In fact, it is too cheap to be good. We cannot hanker after petty gains. When we are shopping, the product itself is not the only one purpose, we can also enjoy the service of course.



彭昱丹
PENG YUDAN
ANGI

On 29 November 1996, an eight pound baby arrived. That was me. I was born and grew up in Shenzhen, a booming southern city in Guangdong Province. I lived in Shenzhen for eighteen years. My family is still there and I study in Xi'an now.

My senior middle school was Shenzhen Hongling Middle School, which is the best school in my district and considered as one of the top five schools in Shenzhen. I spent three years there, having a wonderful, unforgettable school life.

As time progresses, my hopes for the future change. Before I entered university, I hoped to receive a dual degree in the university. However, now I hope that I can study abroad for a master's degree. There is a big difference between Chinese and foreign education, which I do want to experience.

Meanwhile, I can make great progress in my English if I study abroad. In addition, I like traveling, especially traveling alone. I hope I can master two more foreign languages in the future. If I can do it, I believe I can enjoy my travel more and have a bright future as well.

FIREWORKS

It was the third day of Spring Festival. Ke Le sat in the living room, waiting for his father to return from the supermarket. His sister and mother prepared dinner. Ke Le was bored to death. He had been switching channels on the TV, looking for interesting TV shows or even a cartoon.

Suddenly, he was attracted by a box of fireworks.

"Maybe I can set them off," Ke Le thought.

Ke Xin, Ke Le's sister, came into the living room. Ke Le looked at her and asked, "Can I set off these fireworks outside?"

"I have to cook and you can't do it by yourself. It's dangerous. We can do it together later, okay?" said Ke Xin.

"All right," Ke Le said reluctantly.

However, he could not turn his attention from the fireworks. Finally, he took a lighter and the fireworks to the balcony.

"I'm not a little boy. I can handle this," Ke Le comforted himself.

He took one out and lit it. It was beautiful.

Nevertheless, Ke Le's hands trembled a little when he was ready to light a new one and sparks grazed his face.

His sister heard his cry and sent him to the hospital immediately.

The doctor said with resignation, "A lot of children get hurt during the Spring Festival. Fortunately, your eyebrows were just singed,"

"Remember, don't do that without any relatives around," continued the doctor.

Ke Le was banned from setting off the fireworks after he got back home, though he was kept thinking that. Moreover, everyone burst out laughing when they one looked at him because of his bare eyebrows.

Undoubtedly, Ke Le spent the rest of the Spring Festival between bored and embarrassed.

They know each other well, but each has their own little secrets. For instance, Ye Nan loves Mo Na.

Everyone knows Ye Nan loves Mo Na, except her. She thinks they are best friends and takes what he does for granted. But Ye Nan says nothing. He has enough confidence that she will fall in love with him. Actually, she already has.

They are both at Central University, but study in different majors. They were in the same class before, so Mo Na feels strange and complains a lot.

Ye Nan smiles and says nothing.

University life is nothing special to Mo Na. The two eat and go home together during holidays. Although it seems that everything is like before, "Something has changed," Mo thinks.

But there has nothing changed but Mo's heart.

Mo likes to ask Ye who gave him the call after he end his calling. It is a little eccentricity, not on purpose. Before entering university, Mo knew all Ye's friends.

"Who is calling?" Mo asks.

"A classmate, you may not know," Ye answers.

Mo feels that she has fewer commonalities with Ye. Sometimes she even could not understand what Ye was talking about. She tells herself this is quite natural because they have different majors, but still, she cannot avoid feeling lost.

Ye asked her once, "Did something bad happen?"

"No," Mo replied. Actually, it had, but she did not want him to know that she felt so lost because of him. It was really strange.

Mo tried everything she could to remove her sense of lost, she tells herself that everything is like before. Then one day, an unfamiliar girl talked with Ye as if Mo was not there, Mo's sadness finally exploded.

"I forgot to do something. I have to go now," Mo said abruptly.

Without waiting for Ye's reply, Mo hurried away, with her head bending low. She did not want him to how upset she was.

Mo Na ran back to her dorm room and threw herself on the bed. Lin Li, her roommate, asked her what had happened.

"I feel weird," Mo mumbled. She told her feelings to Lin Li.

"Why? Did you finally fall in love with Ye?" Lin asked.

Mo sat up suddenly and said loudly, "Are you crazy? Impossible! We have known each other since we were babies. He is my best friend,"

"That is your thought. You think you and Ye are best friends, so you refuse to admit that you could fall in love with him, but your heart could not refuse," Lin said.

Mo was at a loss.

"Don't you mention that I use the word 'finally'?" Lin asked.

"No," Mo said.

"I know you have fallen in love with Ye, but don't realize it," Lin said.

"Why do you think so?" Mo asked.

Lin laughed and said, "If you say ten sentences, five sentences are about Ye. It seems that you have endless things to say about Ye,"

Mo was surprised, "Really?"

Lin nodded, "I should record what you say next time,"

Mo asked, "Should I tell Ye? Don't you think he will think I'm a weirdo?"

"It is up to you. I do not think he will reject you," Lin said and patted Mo's shoulder.

After a day of thought, Mo decided to tell Ye directly. She could hide it no longer.

"Are you okay? You left suddenly," Ye said.

"I am okay, don't worry," Mo replied.

"Have you finished your work?" Ye asked.

Mo nodded, "But still a little problem remains,"

Ye frowned, "Need my help?"

"Maybe? I have fallen in love with you, can you help me?" Mo said.

After a minute silence, Ye smiled and patted Mo's head.

Mo said in confusion, "Don't you want to say anything?"

Ye opened his mouth, but no words came out.

Mo was frustrated and said, "I know you think I'm weird. Forget what I said," and fled.

"He did not ask me to stay," Mo thought.

Mo wandered around. She did not know where she was going.

She just wanted to ease her sadness. She did not know how much time had passed nor where she was. Then Mo got a message. It was from Ye:

Sorry for my silence. I do not reject you. Instead, I am really happy. You finally fall in love with me! Yes, finally. We have known each other for 22 years. Most of my time was with you. I did everything I could for you, though you took it for granted. That is no problem, because I had confidence that you would eventually love me. Just remember, whatever I do is only for you.

Mo called him immediately and cried, "Why didn't you tell me before?"

"I wanted you to tell me," Ye said.

"Where are you?" Mo asked.

"Behind you," Ye said.

Mo turned around, ran, and hugged him.

"I am only for you," Ye said.

ODD FRIENDS

My best friend Yvonne and I were classmates and became good friends when we were in junior high school.

At first, we did not talk much with each other until a regular meeting on Monday. Although the students were required not to speak, they still talked to others in a low voice or felt totally bored during the meeting. Yvonne and I did the same.

We stood at the end of the queue. To relieve the awkwardness, I said, "It is really hard to meet a girl who is as tall as I am,"

"Yes," Yvonne replied. She did not expect that I would talk to her. Then she asked, "Where do you live?"

"Yitian Estate in Futian District. How about you?"

"Wow, I live in Shixia Estate. Just ten minutes from your home," she said excitedly.

We talked a lot and drew close to each other naturally. This was how we became good friends.

Our topics and the way we get along with each other are different from other girls. We like talking about our favorite sports and the places where we want to go instead of discussing the latest fashions or TV dramas.

We are odd friends.



黄嘉嘉
HUANG JIAJIA
JENNIE

Born on 11 November 1997, in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, I attended senior middle school in Bao'an Middle School, which is located in Bao'an District. When I was in senior middle school, I once represented our school to attend the Model United Nations Conference held locally. Afterwards, I cared more about international issues and wanted to be a diplomat. In university, I joined the English Debate Club, where I learned that many children in rural China can't afford their schooling, how religious conflicts harm innocent people in Middle East, and how terrorism threatens the world. Therefore, I continue dream of being a diplomat to help those in despair.

Apart from doing voluntary work in my space time, I plan to study hard to get a good command of English, which is vital basis for my future development. I would like to choose International Relationship as my specialty in graduate school. Lastly, even if I fail to become a diplomat, I sincerely hope there will be less poverty and more love in the world and my helping hands will try to help achieve this.

GOODBYE, SON

It was a freezing cold winter day in 2008. The approaching Spring Festival made Wang Dashan super excited. Yesterday, he had called his parents who worked in Guangzhou, Guangdong Province and was happily told that they would return to Hunan Province two days later. Dashan was so happy that he could not fall asleep that night. Lying on his small bed, Dashan imagined the New Year's Eve sitting by his father, mother, and grandmother, having a fancy dinner, and watching the CCTV Spring Festival Gala.

Snowstorms lasted for half a month. It was rare to have such heavy snow in South China. Children in the village were very happy and threw snowballs excitedly, except for Dashan, whose parents should have been at home for two days ago. Grandma told him that the heavy snow was a disaster that had trapped millions of migrant workers, including his parents. He hadn't realized how disastrous the snow was until the heavy snow knocked out the telephone signal and he had lost contact with his parents.

When Spring Festival arrived, rather than being busy and noisy, Dashan's home was in dead silence. Dashan and all his relatives were in the hospital. Both his parents had died in a car accident on New Year's Eve. The driver had driven too fast because everyone was eager to be reunited with their families. The snow was heavy. The driver could hardly see the road ahead. In a flash, five families were ruined in a rear-end collision.

No fancy dinner, no loud laughter, no family reunion. All Dashan's wonderful imaginings collapsed. His mother's last words on the phone lingered in his mind,

"Goodbye, son. We will be home soon,"

Today is September 1, 2015, a big day for Zheng Mei – her first day at Central University. Zheng Mei is in seventh heaven because she is finally able to meet Hao Shuai, whom she has known since the age of eight; a boy who is a year older than her.

She loses her way to Teaching Building Six and calls Hao Shuai for help. He does not answer. She asks a student passing by for help and finds that he is going to Teaching Building Six, too. On their way, Zheng Mei learns that the boy is from Guizhou Province and is also a freshman in the English Translation Department.

His name is Xiao Liangzai. When they are talking about university life, Zheng Mei steals a glance at Xiao Liangzai. He looks determined with deep-set eyes, smooth dark skin, and is slim. He is uniquely charming.

Zheng Mei is having lunch with Hao Shuai, but he looks upset and refuses to tell her what happened. Her telephone rings. It is Aunt Zhang, a helper in her home. "Miss Zheng! Lao Zheng died of a heart attack this morning! Mrs. Zheng has fainted," Aunt Huang cries out.

Zheng Mei's world collapses.

It is late September. Autumn comes and tree leaves fall, and so does Zheng Mei's heart. For days, she can hardly eat or drink. She walks to the park she and her father used to play in, reads the books her father used to read to her at night, and drinks the wine her father liked most when he was alive. No matter how hard she tries, memories of her dad never fade.

Then it is the National Day holidays. Zheng Mei has no home to go to because the home was sold by her mom weeks ago. Hao Shuai invites her to his home. While having supper, Hao Shuai's father promises to support her schooling. Moved by their kindness, Zheng Mei kneels in front of Hao Shuai's father and promises to pay the family back in the future, crying long and bitterly.

That night, Zheng Mei lies on the bed, thinking of her future. "How can I pay back Hao Shuai's parents? What if I marry Hao Shuai, give birth to a boy and help the Hao family continue their family line?" Zheng Mei then falls into a sound sleep, dreaming about her future

family life with Hao Shuai.

The next day, Zheng Mei gathers all her courage and tells Hao Shuai her little dream, "Hao Shuai, I think the only way I can pay back your kindness is to marry you after graduation. I have wanted to marry you since I was a little girl!" Zheng Mei says, her heart pounding.

After a long silence, Hao Shuai says, "Meimei! I also want you to be my wife,"

Shy and nervous, Zheng Mei doesn't dare watch his eyes.

Time flies and it is a month before Christmas. The English Translation Department will hold a party to celebrate it. Zheng Mei decides to perform the English Drama, *Romeo and Juliet* on that day. She asks Xiao Liangzai to play Romeo while she plays Juliet. Thinking it is a great chance to practice his oral English, Xiao Liangzai agrees. The preparation for the drama is time-consuming but unforgettable.

At first, Zheng Mei and Xiao Liangzai work together on the script. After hundreds of edits, the script is finally settled. That night they go out to celebrate. After drinking some beer, Zheng Mei cries loudly and tells Xiao Liangzai about her family tragedy.

Xiao Liangzai knows exactly how she feels because he clearly remembers the Spring Festival of 2005 when his father passed away from lung cancer and his mother abandoned him in a dark small house, starving and crying.

The two orphans drink and cry, feeling pity for each other.

The next day, Hao Shuai finds Zheng Mei has a smell of alcohol as soon as he meets her. "Did you drink last night?" Hao Shuai asks in surprise.

"Yes," Zheng Mei doesn't deny it.

Hao Shuai shouts at her angrily. Zheng Mei loses her temper and shouts back, "It is legal for an adult to drink alcohol!" and then runs away.

With Christmas around the corner, Zheng Mei and Xiao Liangzai practice the drama more frequently. The more time they spend together, the more they love each other. On Christmas night, their drama proves a huge success. They are happy and decide to celebrate it. On their way to a restaurant, Zheng Mei's face turns red because the wind is strong and frigid. Xiao Liangzai uses his hands to warm her face. Not only does Zheng Mei's face warm, but also her heart.

"I think you are my Romeo, Liangzai," Zheng Mei says. She can never hide her feelings.

"You are my Juliet," Xiao Liangzai says with a satisfied smile. He holds Zheng Mei's hand carefully.

When Zheng Mei enters her dormitory building and Xiao Liangzai turns back to his dormitory building, a voice comes from the dark threatens Xiao Liangzai. It is Hao Shuai.

"You are in a relationship, aren't you?" Hao Shuai says coldly, "Stay away with her or I will do something you can't imagine. Remember, Romeo is never a countryside boy!"

Since his quarrel with Zheng Mei last time, Hao Shuai feels something strange. Then Hao Shuai leaves. Xiao Liangzai is alone in the horrible dark night. To protect her, Xiao Liangzai decides to leave Zheng Mei.

One sunny afternoon, Zheng Mei decides to talk to Xiao Liangzai who has not contact her since Christmas night. Heart-broken, she wonders what happened. They meet at the crossroad where they first met.

"Liangzai. Long time no see! What are you busy with recently?" Zheng Mei greets warmly.

"Hum... You know I have lots of classes to take in order to join the Communist Party of China," Xiao Liangzai says, telling a white lie.

"You are hiding some secrets, aren't you?" Zheng Mei says. She can tell how much Xiao Liangzai loves her and is sure that he is lying.

"Sorry. Meimei. Listen. I thought you were my Juliet that night because I lost myself in the drama. The next day I woke up and I found we were in different worlds. You should marry Xiao Liangzai. You owe him," Xiao Liangzai says, pretending to be indifferent. Then he leaves with a great agony in his heart while Zheng Mei stands alone at the crossroad, and quietly sobs.

That night Xiao Liangzai is on the brink of madness. Then he stands up and picks up his phone. He is going to tell her the truth.

"Hello?" Zheng Mei answers the phone in a haunting voice as usual.

"Hum... Meimei. This is Liangzai. I am calling you to tell the...tell you something," Xiao Liangzai says.

"Tell me something? Tell me how naïve I am? Or tell me I am

not your Juliet?" Zheng Mei says. She is still angry about that afternoon.

"I am sorry for that. But listen, Meimei. I love you very much. Hao Shuai told me to leave you or he would do whatever he liked to you. I am afraid he will hurt you. I lied to you but I am suffering," Xiao Liangzai says desperately. It is the first time he has cried after his father's death.

Meimei holds the phone. She is trembling. "I know you won't betray me, Liangzai! I grew up with Hao Shuai and I know he would never hurt me!" Zheng Mei says, tears in her eyes.

Zheng Mei sits in front of the mirror that night. She knows if it had not been for Hao Shuai, she would not be at university. But she can't help admiring Xiao Liangzai who is charming, warm-hearted, considerate and the only one in the world who really understands her.

Zheng Mei writes a long letter to Hao Shuai, thanking him for taking good care of her, from eight to eighteen and sincerely apologizes for breaking her promise. She can bear any punishment, she writes, if only she can be with Liangzai.

At the end of the letter, Zheng Mei writes: "Standing at the crossroad of my tragic life, I wish to pursue my own happiness this time,"

NEVER SAY NEVER

In the end of 2015, I made a to-do list for 2016. It was the first time for me to do so. Unsurprisingly, when I told my friends that I had made such a plan, they laughed and bet that I wouldn't do it because they had had so much similar experience. Although I was not sure about myself, I tried my best. The first thing was to donate blood. One day I was walking in Xiaozhai with a roommate when we saw the blood donation car and went there. When I finished the blood donation and got the certificate, I felt like an adult. I was proud of myself and couldn't wait to tell everyone. However, I received no compliments. Instead, my dad criticized me, saying that I was too childish to demonstrate my growth through a blood donation. My best friends and my brother also scolded me severely. They said, "You think that donating blood is 'cool'. You never know how dangerous it is for a girl to donate that much blood! It is not cool at all!"

I was in a wave of anger because I believed ignorance had made them prejudiced against blood donations. I promised myself that I would finish all my to-do list! Things went smoothly at first. Not only did I get a better grade on the final exam, but I also performed well in the English debate competition last term. However, when came to the fourth thing on my to-do list - a driver license - things really changed. I was a bad driver without any sense of direction and strongly scolded by the trainers in the driving school, I didn't dare drive any more. When I was about to give up, my friend reminded me, "It is not a cool thing at all," I persevered. Bounced between "I can do it" and "You are the most stupid driver I have ever seen" I became increasingly skillful. As the old saying goes, constant effort brings success. The drivers' test is next week and I am confident because I have practiced so much. Whatever others think about me, I will break through the darkness to do the things I should.



林振雯
Lin Zhewen
CHRIS

I was born on 30 June 1997 in Yangjiang, Guangdong Province, where I have lived for eighteen years. This is my first time to live in another city, which is far from my home. Four years ago, I attended Yangjiang No. 1 Middle School for senior-high-school study. For the rest of my college life, I hope I can be an excellent English debater, attending more competitions and winning more awards. Besides, I want to be financial independent to ease my family's burden, and studying hard for a Master's Degree.

After graduation from college, I will begin postgraduate study, and I hope I can major in literature translation. Then I can work for a publishing company as a translator or an editor. I hope I can independently earn a living. I can keep touch with my best old friends and I am not afraid to make new friends. I hope I can remain thankful. I hope I can keep kind and warm, and often love others like I love my family. I hope my abilities can support my dreams. I am trying.

AN OLD MAN AND HIS CAT

It was Spring Festival. People went back to their home to visit relatives and spend time with their extended family. Everywhere brimmed with laughter and song.

Except, that is, for an old man in the village who lived alone, with no relatives who visited him.

"He is weird," many villagers said. He seldom talked to others. He was too old to work in the fields. All he did was sitting by the door of his home, with a black cat dozing near his feet. He cooked for himself, and never forgot to feed his cat.

Some said the old man used to be a doctor and had retired from a hospital. Some said the cat was saved by the old man from a car accident, and maybe he was waiting for the owner. No one asked the old man. Where was his families? Where did he come from? Who was he waiting for? No one knew any answers. No one cared about the old man and his cat, even during Spring Festival.

Warm smiles were everywhere, except in the old man's house.

Quietly and dressed properly, the old man waited. It was almost at the end of Spring Festival. People began to leave and returned to work. When they passed the old man, they thought, "What a strange man!"

The old man ignored them.

A little girl came. She was not his granddaughter, just a villager. She brought some candy and flowers.

That's what the old man and his cat were waiting for.

Selfless expressions of kindness.

SUMMERTIME SADNESS

It was almost the end of summer, yet the breeze was still warm. The music and the noise from the auditorium could be heard in the distance. Everyone was excited about the school's Jennings ceremony. Fresh men walking hands in hands, arms by arms--except Min Zhi, who was also a freshman but alone with no companion.

Gazing at the map in puzzle, Min Zhi tried to make his way but failed. He was lost and almost late. With hesitation, Min Zhi stopped someone and said, "Excuse me...Do you know how to get to the auditorium?"

"Sure, this way. Come with me," this stranger said and smiled at Min Zhi.

"Thank you so much!" Min Zhi said, too shy to talk with this warm-hearted stranger on their way to the ceremony, but he was grateful because he was the first to offer help. They arrived just in time.

"Thanks a lot! I must find my class.," Min Zhi smiled. He still didn't know his name, although he was eager to know.

"Okay, but where's your class?" said Lan Jun.

"Over there," said Min Zhi.

"What a coincidence!" Lan Jun exclaimed and began to laugh. "I can't believe we are classmates! How great!"

Suddenly, Min Zhi felt there was a butterfly dancing in his heart. Everything became hopeful, then he said, "I'm Min Zhi,"

"And you can call me Lan Jun," said Lan Jun.

Now Min Zhi knew his name.

The ceremony began. They stood at the end. Lan Jun was taller than Min Zhi, so he stood behind Min. From his viewpoint, he could see Min Zhi's black hair, and his cheeks. It must be soft if he could touch it. "Wait, what am I thinking? He is my classmate!" He pulled himself back from such strange thoughts.

When students got tired of the speeches, they looked around and appreciated how elaborate the decorations were and how artistic the building was designed.

But for Lan Jun, there was only Min Zhi, standing quietly in front of him.

He didn't know why.

They soon realized that the fact of being classmates was not the only coincidence. They also lived in the same dormitory room.

Now they were roommates. Excellent. Both of them were glad, but neither showed their overwhelming satisfaction.

At Central University, it was normal that two students shared a dorm room with a balcony, two bedrooms and a small living room. But Lan Jun wanted to share his room with Min Zhi so that they could have an extra room for study.

Min Zhi agreed.

At night, Min Zhi fell asleep soon, but Lan Jun did not. He gazed at Min Zhi's sleeping face, which was as cute as a little glutinous dumpling. It was just the first day and they didn't know much about each other. Yet somehow, he just wanted to be Min Zhi's best friend as soon as possible, or more than just friend...

Both were busy at the first few days. Sorting out the enrollment procedure, getting familiar with the campus... They were often together. Soon they knew each other better. For Min Zhi, Lan Jun was someone who protected him and treated him as his own family. He was warm-hearted, chivalrous, and of course, good-looking. They were so close that even their classmate admired their friendship, making such friendly jokes as "You are actually twin brothers, aren't you?"

Soon it was the second semester. Long winter ended. Summer was coming.

One day, it started raining. Min Zhi was taking a photograph in the garden. He didn't bring his umbrella. He was still focusing on his pictures. Suddenly a man came and sheltered him with an umbrella and a raincoat. It was Lan Jun.

Lan Jun pretended to be angry, "Why don't you take care of yourself! What if you catch a cold!"

Min Zhi clearly knew he was not really angry, so he laughed and said, "Don't worry. I knew you would come and take care of me. You always do so,"

Lan Jun also laughed and tried to give him a hug, but he didn't want to frighten Min Zhi. Instead he just smiled gently, "May I have a look?"

"Sure," Min Zhi said and handed his camera to him.

The beautiful pictures surprised him. "God! How beautiful

they are! You are a genius! Why don't you try to send them to a magazine! I'm sure you would get a good payment for that!" said Lan Jun.

Min Zhi had never shown his photographs to others. Not even to his parents. No one knew how talented he was. Lan Jun was the first to see his talent and encourage him.

"Thank you... never think about it..," said Min Zhi, and lower his head shyly.

"No, no, Believe in yourself. You did an excellent job. Trust me," Lan Jun said and looked in Min Zhi's eyes, clear as gems.

"Don't move, please," said Min Zhi.

Suddenly Min Zhi stepped back and pressed the shutter. He looks at the screen and smiled again. "See?" said Min Zhi.

Lan Jun came close and looked at the picture. In the picture, he was holding the umbrella, smiling at Min Zhi, like a god. "I loved that. Thank you," Lan Jun held Min Zhi's hand and said, "Let's go to the dormitory. Your hair is wet. Let me help you dry it or you will catch cold,"

Min Zhi' heart was beating rapidly, like there was a rabbit jumping in his chest.

They had gradually fell in love. When did this special feeling start? He did not know.

Through autumn, winter, and spring, he knew Lan Jun was no longer lived with him in the dorm room-- but in his heart. Not from the moment they met, but every moment they spent together. He had not told Lan Jun about his feeling. Instead he hid it in his deep heart.

But for Lan Jun, from the moment Min Zhi took his picture, he made up his mind to tell him the truth. He was gay, and he loved him.

Thinking silently, they got to their room where they spent day and night together.

When Lan Jun went to take a towel for Min Zhi, he sat on the bed, still thinking about their relationship.

"Look, Min Zhi, there's something I want to tell you," Min Zhi said, and put the towel in his hand, staring at him seriously, sincerely.

"I don't know when it started. But I realize that I fall in love with you. You are my summer, my autumn, my winter, and my spring.

I love you. Min Zhi. If my love bothers you, please forget it and I apologize. It means nothing if you don't like it," said Lan Jun.

Still silent. Min Zhi was totally shocked.

Now he knew Lan Jun loved him, just as he loved Lan Jun. He was too delighted to say anything. Lan Jun was still waiting for his answer.

Suddenly he wanted to cry. All these days and months he had felt like running alone in a dark tunnel. Now he understood something clearly at last. It was Lan Jun.

"I am so happy to hear you say so. Really. Thank you. Thank you," said Min Zhi, fell into Lan Jun's warm embrace. Lan Jun wiped away his tears, and comforted him. "Don't cry, don't cry, my sweetheart," Lan Jun said and kissed him on the forehead, "I love you,"

"I love you more," said Min Zhi, bashfully.

"I don't know what we will face, but I will always be with you, and protect you. I promise," said Lan Jun.

"I know. I believe you," said Min Zhi.

They continued to live together. They were like a couple. They had a lot of friends who congratulated them, and they had each other. They celebrated their birthday, Christmas, and every holiday. They loved each other more than their own lives. Everything seemed perfect.

However, not everyone approval. Some of their teachers thought it was inappropriate. Their parents also knew and objected. Some hateful messages on the Internet towards homosexual also hurt them.

"Listen, there's nothing wrong with you guys. Love is never wrong. We will help you," their friends encouraged from time to time.

It was May, a month before graduation. There was an exhibition on campus about LGBT anti-discrimination. Lan Jun and Min Zhi attended the exhibition and heard many different voices. "They are the same as us! They also have a right to love!" "They are monsters!" "They should fight for their love! Love is equal!" "They are disgusting and they deserved to be discriminated!" "No! Never!" It was so noisy. Lan Jun was afraid that Min Zhi would get hurt, so he covered his ears with his hands to keep those mean words away. They returned to their dorm room where they had lived for four years.

Min Zhi knew it was time.

"Lan Jun," said Min Zhi, trying hard to keep his tears from falling.

"Min Zhi," Lan Jun comforted him and held him in his arms, "Don't listen to them. They are wrong,"

"No, listen to me. Your parents are right. Forget me. You will have a better life. Your parents have prepared everything for you. With me, you get nothing," Min Zhi cried.

"I have you. That's enough. You are my life," said Lan Jun.

"What about our future after graduation? How will society judge us? It is impossible for us to marry abroad. We don't have enough money. Even if we did, then where would we live? We can never live under discrimination," said Min Zhi.

"You are the best man that I will ever met. All I want is for you to have a bright, promising future. You are so smart, so talented, don't waste your time on me," Min Zhi continued to speak.

"You are the one who protect me. Now it is my turn to protect you," said Min Zhi.

Tears were in both their eyes. Neither said any word.

But Lan Jun knew he would always remember Min Zhi, and he would never fall in love again. From the moment they met he knew it was their destiny, to fall in love, and being separated by the society. They still loved each other, but there's the ending.

That's Min Zhi's decision. Lan Jun could not accept this cruel reality, but he had to respect Min Zhi's choice. He loved Min Zhi, heart and soul.

They didn't know what would happen several years later, yet they didn't understand when the society was wrong, why should individuals suffer from such burden? They never found out the answer.

It was summer, their favorite season. They had had all those happy memories, but they felt it was a cold, endless winter.

ONE DAY AS A VOLUNTEER

When I was in senior high school, every summer holiday I would attend the book fair, simply as a reader.

But this year I wanted to try something new. "What if I am not just a reader or a visitor? What if I am a volunteer? How interested that would be?" Thoughts kept rising in my mind, while I was sending registration mail, hopefully and expectantly.

Soon I received the reply, passing the audition smoothly.

Yet it was my first time to be a volunteer, just out of personal interest rather than totally thinking about helping others. I wondered whether I would be a competent one.

The day arrived. The beginning of my volunteering.

I still clearly remember the hot wind of August, the sound of the crowd, the flashlight of the cameras, and of course, the pleasant smell of the books. All of them compromised lively in my memory. It was the first day, and so were the four days.

Every day I met different readers, varied from ages and sex. And every time I help them find the book they wanted, or told them which area were they able to find certain kinds of books, I found it miraculous that they are from every walk of life, but at this book fair their identities were the same readers.

For me, be a volunteer was not easy as I had thought, but still not that terrible as I had imagined. Sometimes people were not easy to satisfy. Some of their questions were quite difficult to answer, which might somehow embarrass me if I didn't get the point.

Although not all the readers could place the books properly - which led to my main job: sorting through the books, it was always a great comfort that someone could put them back after finishing their reading.

Till the end of the fair, I realized that this was more than just a book fair. As a volunteer, I read more than books--I also read people.



郑娇
ZHENG JIAO
LAURA

My name is Zheng Jiao. My name, Jiao, means beauty and loveliness. My mother thought girls should be like this, so she gave me this name. My birth date is 16 July 1997. It was a hot summer day that gave my mother much inconvenience because she could not do anything to feel cool. Mothers are great.

I was born in Xi'an, and am a Xi'an native. I have been living here for almost twenty years. I graduated from Xi'an No. 70 Middle School after six years. Not only did I make my best friends, but I also learned about life.

I think about my future. I love my family, and I do not want to work far from home. If I were not homesick, I would have chosen a college in another province. I hope I can be a professional translator in the future. However, I think if I choose to go abroad for a master's degree and more professional translating training, I will be more confident, skillful, and qualified to work as an excellent translator.

COLD SPRING FESTIVAL

Spring Festival is coming. Father will never come back!" Song Yu thinks, seeing snow falling.

Ten years ago, if the accident hadn't happened, Song Yu would still be happy living with her parents.

Song Yu clearly remembered that cold, snowy day, but she was happy, because her parents would pick her up to visit their relatives when she finished her violin lessons. Unfortunately, she didn't know what would happen next. At the same time,

Wang Qiang, a lazy boy from a rich family, had bought a new car, and wanted to show how fast it could go to his friends. It wasn't many cars. He thought it wouldn't cause any problems if he drove 180 km per hour, though he should drive only 60 km per hour on that road.

The class bell rang, and Song Yu saw her father standing outside, smiling to her. She ran to him. He took her bag, and said, "Go visit your grandparents! Mom is waiting for us in the car," They went downstairs and walked to the car. Song Yu got in and sat with her mother. Her father closed the door. Suddenly, the tragedy struck. The car in front suddenly stopped, so Wang Qiang turned right and hit the car which was on the right side of Song's car. That car just stopped there, and the owner was not there. It abruptly hit Song Yu's father as he was about to walk into his car. Wang Qiang got out, terrified. Song Yu and her mother witnessed the death of Song Yu's father. It was no help to take him to the hospital. Finally, Wang Qiang was sentenced to prison, but Song Yu's father would never come back.

Finally, Xia Shi has received Central University's offer to the Oil Painting Department. The deadline for committing was a week later. But she was not as happy as she had imagined some days earlier. The reason was that Wu Jiaheng, her deskmate, has gone to America without telling her, the boy she had loved for three years in high school. Now she even doesn't know where he goes to. "Maybe my confession scared him?" she thinks. She had told him that she fancied him after their graduation ceremony. He had just said "Xiao Xi, I have some business, I must attend to," He saw his father's bodyguards came to take Jiaheng away, and he didn't want to threaten her. He also loved her, but he can't give response. He was from a rich family, and his parents had already chosen one of their friends' daughters as his fiancée. What he could do is to build himself, he had to get enough credits in one year at Northwest University for graduation and cannot contact with Xia Shi. When Jiaheng graduates, he can chase his own life and protect his true love. This is the only condition from his parents. Unfortunately, Xia Shi doesn't know all of this

Suddenly her cell phone rings. It is her best friend, Xu Anran's phone call. "Do you know that? Jiaheng is going to the airport, he will go abroad today!" Anran says. "What?! I'm going to the airport right now," Xia Shi replies. On the way to the airport, she cannot figure out why Jiaheng doesn't follow his heart. She can feel that he cares about her. However, she changes her mind when she sees Jiaheng enters the boarding gate with another girl. Xia Shi is dumbfounded. "I have a wrong feeling for the whole time, I thought he loved me, too" she laughs but with tears in her eyes. She turns and goes back home. Wu Jiaheng is gone. Xia Shi's first love is gone. But she didn't see the pain in his eyes, and had no idea about his determination and plan.

Sometimes if we lose someone once, we would never have the opportunity to be with that one for the rest of our life.

Meanwhile, "Today is a good day," Bian Yuan thinks, "I have left this city for three years. It is time to go back to my hometown," This boy is famous for his mystery novels, but he never attends meetings held in public. So, no one recognizes him. Maybe they just think that

how handsome he is! He is an orphan, but his financial condition is good due to a scholarship and income from his novels. A girl looks desperate and knocked him. "Sorry," she says. "Never mind," he replies. She is gone when he comes back to reality. He was absent-minded just now because he had an unspeakable feeling when he saw the girl. Bian Yuan believes that he will meet the girl again. "I'm very curious about Xia Shi," he thinks, "What kind of girl can attract Jiaheng?" he feels puzzled while walking out the airport.

Bian Yuan and Wu Jiaheng have been best friends since junior high school. They keep contact even though Bian Yuan went to Singapore for high school study. So Bian Yuan knows a lot about Xia Shi from Jiaheng. Every time he listens to Jiaheng talking about how cute and kind Xia Shi is, his curiosity grows stronger.

Jiaheng told Bian Yuan his plan, and asked Bian Yuan to protect and take care of Xia Shi when he was not with her. Bian Yuan agrees, out of friendship and curiosity.

"What if she falls in love with me?"

Bian Yuan says. "I would bless you," Jiaheng replies. Jiaheng tells him that Xia Shi's ideal school is Central University. So he chose to attend Central University, and majors in criminal psychology, which can help him in his writing work.

A week passed. Both Xia Shi and Bian Yuan are ready to go to college. Now, it is a new beginning. Two weeks later, Xia Shi is thinking about which club to choose. "I love painting. What else I love? Oh, drama! I should choose the Drama Club!" she thinks.

At the same time, Bian Yuan has heard that Fang Mu, his good friend in junior high school, has become the leader of the Drama Club. He says, "I should go visit my old friend," So, both leave for the Drama Club.

Bian Yuan is chatting with Fang Mu when he hears a knocking sound. He says, "I'm going to open the door,"

When a boy opens the door, Xia Shi says, "Hello, I'm here to take part in the Drama Club,"

Bian Yuan looks at her and says, "Come in. Have we met before? I'm familiar with you,"

"Sorry, I don't remember," she replies. "Oh, the airport! At the airport,"

He smiles.

She also smiles and says, "Oh, I recall. Yes. Besides, are you the leader? I want to join you,"

"I'm not. Mr. Fang!" Bian Yuan calls Fang Mu.

Fang Mu comes to them, saying "You want to join in us? Sure! Here is the form, fill in the blanks," she finishes.

"OK, you are one of our members, Xia Shi. Congratulations!"

Fang Mu says, "I'm also glad to join you," and smiles.

"Wait, what is your name?" Bian Yuan asks.

"Xia Shi," she answers with a puzzled face.

Bian Yuan pauses for a second, and then says, "I'm Bian Yuan, and I major in criminal psychology. Nice to meet you," He stretches out a hand.

She shakes his hand, and says, "Nice to meet to you, too,"

In the following days, Bian Yuan often invites Xia Shi for lunch or study, and accompanies her to paint outside and go back to her dormitory. He is aware of her kindness when seeing her feed stray cats and helping others. He now knows why Jiaheng loves this girl. Xia Shi also realizes what a talent young adult Bian Yuan is after reading his novels and accompanying with him for a few days. Both like each other. They start calling each other "A Shi" and "A Bian". Like this, day after day, they are soon sophomores.

As a member of the Drama Club, Xia Shi and Bian Yuan are selected to be Romeo and Juliet, which they prepare for Central University's 100th anniversary. They must rehearse every afternoon. The performance is successful. After the audience leaves, Bian Yuan asks Xia Shi to stay on the stage. Suddenly, the broadcast starts with Bian Yuan's attractive voice. "The first time I heard your name was from Jiaheng. He said that he had met a really lovely girl who cares about everyone around her, and helps others without complaint. She is beautiful, considerate, and loves painting, but the most important thing is that I love her. Her name is Xia Shi. Do you want to be my girl, A Shi?" Xia Shi stands on the stage, with tears of happiness. When Bian Yuan walks to her, she runs to him and gives him a hug, saying, "Yes, I do,"

After they become a couple, they are more diligent. They encourage each other. Both of are eager to learn. Life is quiet until Wu

Jiaheng returns on A Shi's birthday. He calls her, "Xiao Xia, I'm back, I'll be in our high school this afternoon. Will you be there?"

There is silence.

"OK, I'll go there," she answers finally.

"Go meet Jiaheng, and listen what he wants to say. I'll wait for you the school art gallery and give your birthday gift at half past seven PM," Bian Yuan says. And he ruffles her hair, smiling a gentle smile.

Wu Jiaheng has arrived their high school when Xia Shi comes. He looks happy, and says, "Xiao Xia, I'm back, do you want..." She interrupts, "Sorry, I have a boyfriend and I love him so much" Wu Jiaheng looks upset, saying, "It is Bian Yuan, isn't it? I bless you,"

"Thank you" she replies. Then she leaves for her school because it is already seven o'clock. "I lost her when I decided to go to America," Wu Jiaheng thinks with a wry smile.

What is Bian Yuan doing? He is at the gate of the school art gallery, guiding an audience into the gallery. His gift is an exhibition of Xia Shi's works. He understands her and knows what her dreams are and what she wants. He wants others to know how talented A Shi is. When Xia Shi arrives here, she is surprised. "Do you like it? This is your birthday gift. Happy birthday, my pretty girl," he says and smiles. She is moved. She smiles with tears, and answers, "I love it, and I love you,"

Their story will continue. Maybe they will marry after graduation, maybe not. We meet many people at different periods of our life. Sometimes we are fooled by appearances and we are far from our true lovers. Do not worry. They are waiting for us at somewhere. What we should do is choosing them without hesitation when we meet, and accompany each other until we are gone.

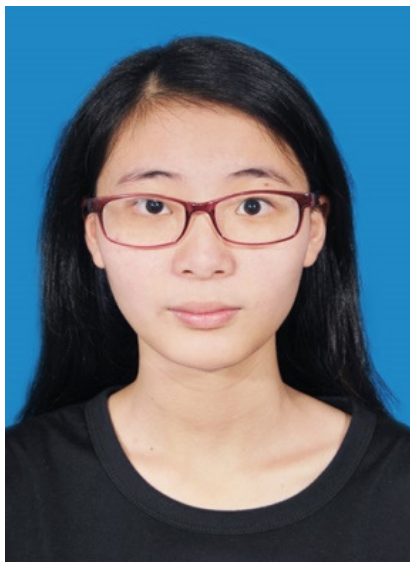
MY EIGHTEENTH BIRTHDAY GIFT

As time goes by, I celebrate my birthday year by year just like other people. And as usual, I receive many gifts from my friends and relatives. Meanwhile, going out for dinner and having a birthday cake are obligatory on that day, which my birthday used to be like, traditional and a little bit boring.

To celebrate my birthday, gifts are usually given to me directly. In other words, I have never received a gift as surprise. However, my eighteenth birthday gift from my best friend, Elaine, was unique. Instead of giving to me directly, she chose to send it to me as surprise, which was an extremely novel idea.

On one day that was a few days before my birthday, she asked me to help her sign for a parcel without telling me the truth. What she told me was that she bought some make-up without her mother's permission, so she needed my help. This is so reasonable that I couldn't doubt it. So I was totally shocked when receiving the parcel whose brand was my favorite. The moment I knew her purpose I was deeply touched. Despite of the price of the gift, her behavior has made us much closer, for I understand how she cares about me. The cup she gave to me is the best gift I have ever received.

Considerate as she was, it made me feel so warm as if we had been like families. I will cherish our friendship forever.



罗捷
LUO JIE
KELLY

My name is Luo Jie and my English name is Kelly. I was born on 15 January 1997, in a very small village in Guangdong Province where there are many green hills, lakes, and mountains. My parents and I soon moved to Shenzhen City after my birth. I lived and grew up in Shenzhen, a modern financial and commercial metropolis in China. I graduated from Nantou High School, which is the largest public senior middle school in Nanshan District, Shenzhen City.

Recently, I often think about my hopes for the future. I love to travel but I face some challenges. Language is a prerequisite of travel and an independent quality is valued. Unfortunately, both necessary social skills are my shortcomings.

To be closer to my dream, I hope I take English learning more seriously. I hope I have really good English when I graduate from Shaanxi Normal University. I also hope that I can learn to fend for myself when living in Xi'an to help me prepare well to explore the world.

NIGHTMARE

Chu Zihang stopped the car and lit a cigarette. He had expected to be calm by now. He wasn't.

He was only 8 years old when his relatives had taken him abroad. Twenty years later, he had returned to his homeland.

The day before his father's death was Spring Festival. Ideally, it was time for a happy reunion. But, instead, it was the beginning of a nightmare.

It was a cold night. He and his mother had prepared a big meal and sat by the table, waiting for his father's return. He was eager to see his father, who had been on business. He hadn't seen him for two months. Evening was approaching. His mother was worried. He dialed his father. No answer.

As it grew dark, it began to rain. Chu Zihang's mother grew increasingly restless. Suddenly, the telephone rang. A worried voice said anxiously, "Quickly! Hospital! Mr. Chu had a terrible car accident!"

Frozen, his mother held the phone in bewilderment.

They rushed to the hospital and couldn't help trembling. Though the doctors did their best, it was too late. After hearing this bad news, Mrs. Chu could barely stand. She squatted, silent and alone, just looking at the corpse, then fainted. Outside the rain continued to pour as if it was trying to wash away everything that had happened that day.

Weeks later, Mrs. Chu ended her life with a knife. Chu Zihang, the poor son, was left alone in the empty house. Everything around him was full of their presence, continually reopening sadness. He then went abroad to live with his uncles.

As Chu Zihang stubbed out his cigarette, that memory faded. He opened the car door and walked toward his parents' grave.

Having been born into a family of traditional musicians, Ran Nian, eighteen years old, was an easy-going, extroverted, broad-minded girl. She took her family's musical talent and learned how to play the zither 'guzheng' for nearly 15 years under the guidance of her grandpa who was a famous musician.

Lin Yu, eighteen years old, was the lead singer and guitarist in a band. Lanky, slender, with untidy, bronze-colored hair, made him look more boyish than his band mates.

One was a talented wit while the other was a great beauty. One was crazy about pop music, while the other indulged in traditional music. Their love story began with a chance meeting when both were admitted to Central University as music majors.

Once in class, a teacher asked Lin Yu to comment on the performance of Ran Nian. He knew little about the traditional music and said traditional music was boring. His classmates burst into laughing. Ran Nian was embarrassed. She turned and glared at Lin Yu.

"How could you say that? This is a classical piece that goes all the way back to the Han Dynasty!" Ran Nian exclaimed.

"I just spoke the truth," he said, meeting her gaze.

"What an arrogant, ignorant boy!" Ran Nian sniffed.

Lin Yu was exasperated. Pointing to his heart he said, "Here! My heart... wasn't touched by your performance at all,"

Ran Nian felt hurt but not wanting to be outdone, argued, "Do you know the essence of traditional music? Do you know what the soul of traditional music is?"

"Did I need to know?" he retorted.

"If you are uncertain about this kind of music, please stop saying stupid things! Our music is a hundred times more pleasant than your noisy music,"

"Yeah?" he frowned, then gave a half smile. "Let's make a bet, shall we?" he said.

"Agreed!" she said.

"Well, who loses the bet will be the slave and serve the winner for one month! Do you dare?" he sneered, arching an eyebrow.

"Of course!"

At that moment, the bell rang loudly. Lin Yu was out of his seat and out the door quickly before anyone else was out of their seats. Ran Nian sat frozen, staring blankly after him.

Soon the news spread all over the campus. To support their music departments, the bet turned into a great rivalry between two different types of music. The match came and the two bands were both well prepared. Both teams connected with the hearts and souls of their audience. Though the competition was so close that no one could predict the final outcome precisely, Lin Yu's team won.

Reluctantly, Ran Nian had to serve Lin Yu for a month. She was on 24-hour call. When Lin Yu called her, wherever she was, she came running. She often got coffee for Lin Yu and helped him clean the music room. Very soon she adapted to this embarrassing relationship. It was in this relationship that she internalized the full meaning of pop music and came to realize that he was not as cool as he looked.

Lin Yu was crazy about music, but whenever he brought up this topic his family objected, making him sad. Every time he lowered his head and sat in silence, Ran Nian wanted to walk over and put her arm round him. She found herself falling in love.

In Lin Yu's heart, Ran Nian was different. He also had a crush on Ran Nian. Every time he saw her, he couldn't help wanting to pull her close. Maybe it came from practicing the zither in earnest. Maybe it came from her smiling at him. Maybe it came from her sitting next to him and listening to his dreams. He didn't know. All he knew was that compared to her, other girls seemed so...ordinary.

One night, Ran Nian was left to clean up after class. Lin Yu showed up, grabbed her by the hand, and said, "I've got to talk to you,"

She half-stood and said, "What? What is going on?"

"I came to tell you I like you very much. Would you be...my girlfriend?"

Frozen, Ran Nian stared at him silently. After a long silence, she bit her lip to hide her smile and said, "Yes!" and glanced at Lin Yu again.

His face was turned away, but his cheek lifted as if he was smiling too. That was how they started going out.

Everything was running smoothly. Besides study, they also

went out for dinner and watched movies together. They went walking, biking, and sometimes camping. With their joint efforts and promotion, traditional music and pop music gradually integrated harmoniously.

One day, they went to the music hall for an important musical competition. Ran Nian accidentally lost her balance in the hustle and bustle of the stairway. As she fell, Lin Yu caught one of her hands, but then fell down the stairs, injuring his wrist.

The competition began on time. They performed very well, which the audience acknowledged with enthusiastic applause. Only Lin Yu knew how serious his broken wrist was. When the performance concluded, Lin Yu rushed outdoors and saw his wrist was swelling. His hand and fingers were beginning to throb.

The next day, Ran Nian was informed that she now had gotten an opportunity to do further study abroad. It was a mixed blessing. She didn't want to let this opportunity pass but she also didn't want to be separated from Lin Yu. She was in a dilemma.

Realizing her hesitation, Lin Yu was determined to break up with her to prompt her to seize this opportunity. They ate together and then he took her home. Finally, Lin Yu said, "Ran Nian, I am sorry, let's break up. We really don't match each other,"

Confused and astonished, Ran Nian stood frozen, lifted her face, and asked, "Why?"

"You are nice girl, but we won't work out. So don't waste time,"

"Please! What's wrong with you? Well. No matter what you say, I won't leave you. I will not go to England. We will have a bright future!" Ran Nian said eagerly looking at Lin Yu.

"There are so many great things out there for you. Leave to chase your dream!"

After hearing that, Ran Nian felt helpless and began to weep, squatting on the ground.

Lin Yu felt miserable and heart-broken, but he had no choice. "I swore not to lie you. I want to tell you the truth. I do not love you anymore. I can't bear you anymore..."

There was another moment of pensive silence, in which Lin Yu just gazed up at her with teary eyes. Then he sighed, turned, and walked away, leaving Ran Nian alone. It was hard for Lin Yu too,

because Ran Nian was a pivotal part of his life. But he loved her, so he had to let her go.

Drops of rain fell on her hair and face, Ran Nian went home and locked herself in her room.

She called him on the phone.

No answer.

She sent a message to him.

No answer.

Dispirited and weary, Ran Nian cracked a wry smile.

Outside, the rain continued to pour, telling a sad love story.

Weeks passed. Ran Nian went abroad to study. At the same time, Lin Yu began to receive treatment.

Two years later, Ran Nian was a famous singer and dancer and Lin Yu had gradually recovered from the injury. Ran Nian, as an outstanding student representative, was invited to participate in a performance for the school anniversary. When she saw the great changes of the school, various feelings welled up in her mind. She looked for Lin Yu, but failed to see him. Ran Nian and her friends were strolling along, laughing and joking. They talked of Lin Yu unintentionally. She was shocked to hear of his wrist injury. Until then, she had not realized what had happened. After she knew the whole story, she was upset by her carelessness and felt angry at herself.

It was a wonderful afternoon, full of flowers and warm sunshine. She found herself wandering to the park where they had spent happy hours. Suddenly, a familiar figure came into sight. Ran Nian's heart leapt with joy.

Lin Yu also recognized her. In fact, he was waiting for her every day at this park since she had left.

In pause that followed, they looked at each other and smiled.

THE TWO BROTHERS

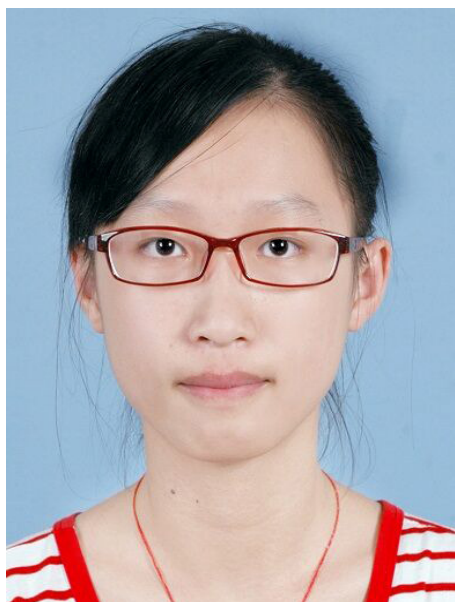
Yang Gengang and Yang Gencong are brothers, and were my classmates when I was in senior high school. Yang Gengang is one year older than Yang Gencong who is my age. Both were appreciated by all teachers because of their intelligence and talents. They helped me over in my relative weak subjects.

Although they are brothers, they are very different. One is talkative while the other is reticent. I know it might sound strange, but we had never noticed them communicating with each other. Weird! If they were put into the same learning group, both became silent, let alone made eye contact.

They were assigned to the same room and had to share everything with each other in the dormitory. According to the two other boys living with them, they treated each other more as strangers than brothers. We assumed they had seriously argued before.

It was not until one afternoon when I came home with younger brother that I came to realize that we were wrong. He told me, "It is because we are so familiar with each other that we don't have to communicate excessively. We have been used to it!"

How dull it seemed! We always drive stakes through others and create embarrassment. This is a really bad habit.



李一静
LI YIJING
RITA

My name is Li Yijing and my English name is Rita. I was born 9 November 1997 in Dongguan, a coastal city. It is also important in early modern Chinese history because the Destroying Opium at Humen Incident.

I attended in Dongguan Middle School, which has more than a hundred years of history. I met numerous talented students and creative teachers there. I now attend Shaanxi Normal University in Xi'an.

During my high school years, I found attending IELTS and TOEFL examinations was common among my classmates. It then occurred to me that learning a foreign language was of great importance. That is also the reason why I choose translation major.

I have a happy family of three members--my parents and me. My father is a middle school teacher. One of my happiest memories is reading books with my father in my childhood.

I dream of traveling around the world with my parents and not

need to worry about expenses. If I can be a translator and master several foreign languages, I would get well-paid jobs. To fulfill my hopes, I hope to be self-disciplined and resolute.

LEARN TO BE GRATEFUL

My father was the fourth child in his family. Since my grandfather passed away owing to overwork, my grandmother has undertaken the whole pressure to support the family. There were some relatives of my grandfather's brothers bullying my grandmother such as selling her piglets without her permission or borrowing money to her family in the name of my grandmother because my grandmother is an amiable person and easy to cheat. My father, while remaining outwardly amiable toward all concerned, was inwardly furious. My grandmother could not afford all her children's education so my father had the only chance to attend the teachers' college as a result.

In my father's middle school years, he was the most hardworking student. But he had to pay his school fares by himself. His head teacher provided him a job in the school as a tutor assistant which was especially for poor students. My father refused it because it was labeled as a poor student. His classmate Chong advised him to work in his village which was at the foot of the Grandaunt Mountain as a porter. In order to blaze a trail for the mine, my father and other workers carried the track sleepers up to the hill. During my father's working time, Chong's father provided him with few meals and treated my father kindly like his own son. My father remembered this and mentioned it to me often. "A drop of water in need, we shall be returned with a spring in deed," I heard another story about Chong. Chong and his brother were addicted to gambling in 1980s while my father had been offered a job in Guangdong for 3 years. Chong was in debt and his relatives refused to lend money to him anymore. Without any hesitation, my father gave him 20,000 Yuan and told him that he would not ask him to repay because of his father. After that, Chong gave up gambling and strived to work to pay off the debts. At present, he earns some money and buys a truck to transport goods to Pearl River Delta. When we return our hometown in Tomb Sweeping Day, my father will drop by their house and talk with Chong's father.

The second person was a former primary school principle of a wealth village in Guangdong. The local people scorned the non-native

and my father worked unhappily at first. The principle couple treated my father friendly without any prejudice. When my father was invited to have dinner, he would bring some gifts such as some apples to them. In one visiting at his house, his wife was conscious of that my mother was pregnant and gave my mother some tonics. And my mother told me that the principle couple lent the fares of her cesarean section because my father did not have too much money to pay for at that time. My father has changed his job now, but we will visit the former principle couple in festival and holiday.

"A drop of water in need, we shall be returned with a spring" is what I have been educated since I was a child. During my school life, I meet various kinds of people. I respected all my teachers and got along well with my classmates. I remembered that I was supposed to learn to be grateful and I would deal with interpersonal relationship cordially with a smile.

LET ME HOLD YOUR HAND

Ye Yin and Ye Yun were twins born in a wealthy family. They are both lovely girls with charming brown eyes. However, the elder sister, Ye Yun, had an incurable genetic disease and was unable to attend school. Ye Yin feels sorry for her and is afraid of losing her. She holds her hand at night and saves candies for her.

Ye Yin loves her sister and takes meticulous care of Ye Yun. Ye Yin begs their parents to allow her to accompany her sister. Their parents then pay a tutor to teach their daughters.

They spend a great deal of time staying at home and have enough time to cultivate their interests. Ye Yin is crazy about music the first time she takes part in a concert. She practices day and night and is able to play several musical instruments. Meanwhile, Ye Yun is fond of reading so she writes blogs and shares her reading with her pen pals on the internet.

As the twins grow up, their parents persuade Ye Yin to attend college. Ye Yin is unwilling to leave her sister and learns by herself. Ye Yun knows how deeply her sister loves music and encourages, "Yin, you can learn more at the university. You cannot stay at home with me forever,"

Ye Yin stops playing the piano and says, "I can do that. I cannot live without you,"

Ye Yun has seen a different, wonderful world on the internet and understands that her sister is absorbed by music and trapped in her own limited world. She shows some attractive photos of Central University, including a fabulous theater and scenic environment. Ye Yin is lost in contemplation of the pictures. After hesitated for a few days, she tells her parents that she wants to go to university.

Owing to her excellent performance in music, Ye Yin is admitted to Central University, which will provide her with excellent opportunities to learn from famous musicians and professors. Ye Yin is excited, but hesitates over leaving her sister. "Let me hold your hand, Yin. You deserve a gorgeous life and the university is your first step," Ye Yun says and wipes away Ye Yin's tears.

Without Ye Yin's company, Ye Yun spends more time on the

internet while listening to music recorded by her sister. She occasionally reads a blog of a web friend named Lin Xi who has a miraculous life. The boy delights in surfing, rock climbing and bungee jumping. Additionally, he attaches a short poem to his extreme sports photos. She is enchanted by this guy, though she never chats with him.

Lacking experience in dealing with interpersonal relationships, Ye Yin gets along well with her classmates because she listens and observes. One day, Ye Yin is composing a song at a pavilion. Lin Xi is attracted by her impressive melodies.

Ye Yin is startled that she finds a man standing near. "I don't mean to startle you. Your melodies are fascinating," Lin Xi explains.

Ye Yin smiled and said nothing. "I am a student in the Computer Department. I am Lin Xi. Nice to meet you," Lin Xi says, stretching out his hand to Ye Yin.

"Thanks for your compliment," Ye Yin says and, after a brief hesitation, shakes his hand.

Lin Xi starts a conversation about music topic, which strikes a chord with Ye Yin. Ye Yin is stimulated about the music history and comparison of timbres. Lin Xi is also surprised that her unique concept of music. They spend a nice time at the pavilion. It seems that they will become good friends.

When Lin Xi returns to his dorm room, he is restless. His roommates find him strange and ask why. "I met a girl with great talent in music today," Lin Xi says.

"So, you fell in love with her at first sight?" his roommate asks.

Lin Xi shakes his head and says, "Nonsense," and throws a book at his roommate. However, Lin Xi can't help thinking about the girl.

Lin Xi plans to invite Ye Yin to a party and prepares to express his feelings. Unfortunately, Ye Yun is hurt in an accident and her wound becomes infected. Her condition takes a sharp turn for the worse. Ye Yin returns at once and takes care of her sister because she is told that Ye Yun won't recover. "This time, please hold my hand. I won't leave you ever again," Ye Yin says. Ye Yun is too weak to open her eyes lying on the sickbed. When Ye Yin is tending her sister, she checks her blogs and finds Ye Yun has collected numerous pictures and notes about Lin Xi.

Lin Xi is worried about Ye Yin because she leaves the university without a word. He asks Ye Yin's classmates about her departure. Lin Xi then hurries to the hospital and ready to express his feelings. Lin Xi is out of breath when he arrives. "You are my destiny, not a sudden thought. Please give me a chance to prove it?" he declares. Although Lin Xi has the pluck to express his affection, the twins confuse him. Ye Yun opens her eyes and looks at Lin Xi. Lin Xi wonders why Ye Yin is so pale. When Lin Xi turns his back, he finds that Ye Yin watching the whole incident. Ye Yin is so astonished, and she runs away.

Ye Yun tells Ye Yin the fact that she might die in three months and wants to see her beloved sister experience a true love. "I collected those pictures of Lin Xi because I admire that he lives an exciting and wonderful life. Ye Yin, you and I live in a narrow world of ourselves. Open your mind and accept him," Ye Yun explains.

Ye Yun arranges a date and explains the reason of the misunderstanding to Lin Xi. Ye Yin is conscious of her own affection and recognizes that she falls in love with Lin Xi. After Lin Xi makes a pledge to Ye Yun, she entrusts Ye Yin to Lin Xi's care. "Let me hold your hand," Lin Xi says to Ye Yin tenderly. Ye Yin gives Lin Xi a big hug.

AN UNHAPPY SPRING FESTIVAL

Spring Festival is one of China's traditional festivals. People get together and have a great meal with their whole family. Ban Lin, however, was unable to go back home because her boss told her to work overtime. He promised to give her a bonus. Ban Lin couldn't refuse. She was a new hire and jobs were few in the big city. On New Year's Eve, Ban Lin phoned her family and explained why she couldn't go home. When her relatives pick up the phone, Ban Lin gave her best wishes and told them not to worry about her.

Ban Lin stayed awake that night. She got a call at 5:00 AM. Ban Lin's parents told her to return home because her grandpa was hurt in an accident and his was very ill.

Ban Lin returned and cared for her grandpa. She was told that he wouldn't recover.

He was too weak to open his eyes. Ban Lin recalled her happy childhood with him and cried. Her grandpa has encouraged her to study hard to have a better life with a comfortable house in a big city. Ban Lin did her best and got good grades. After graduated from university, Ban Lin found it difficult for her to gain a foothold in a big city. However, her grandpa gave her faith to pursue her dream when she wants to give up. Then she waited in the ward until her grandpa waked.

Her grandpa comforted her and encouraged her, "Humans tend to seek higher position while water always flows to lower places,"

The doctor announced his death. Ban Lin was heartbroken during the funeral, but gained confidence in few months and decided to work in the big city as before.



崔晨波
CUI CHENBO
ROSE

My name is Rose, and my Chinese name is Cui Chenbo. I am a Christian. I was born on 6 November 1996. I have a happy family full of love. My hometown is Xining, Qinghai Province. I attended my senior middle school in Xining. I really love my hometown. It is a beautiful place.

After I finished my college, I want to get an AASFP trainer license and work in a gym for a year or two, and then I want to go to America to continue study. In the future, I want to travel to different places and experience different life styles. I want to be a person who can take control of her own life and not have to listen to other people's judgments.

In the future, I want to live in a beautiful house and be married to a really nice person. I want to try a lot of new things and have a joyful life.

LITTLE ACCIDENT

The Spring Festival of 2014 was full of joy and happiness. People were visiting friends and relatives. Xi Yue, a three-year-old little girl, was at dinner with her relatives at Xi Yue's home.

Xi Yue's mom, Zhang Yu, was in the kitchen cooking, Xi Yue's dad, Xi Ke, was serving and talking with their relatives. Xi Yue was sitting on her little chair, surrounded by some teenagers.

After an hour, the festival meal was ready. Xi Yue sat with her uncle and aunt. Xi Yue's aunt had no experience with a young child and fed her a date.

People were busy talking. Xi Yue choked on the date pit and could not breath. She could not make any sound and her face became red. A few seconds later, Xi Yue's aunt finally notice Xi Yue's situation and told Xi Yue's mom.

When people all realized some bad thing happened, Xi Yue was totally fainted and had no pulse. Xi Yue's mom was shocked and did not know what to do. She was trembled and started to call 120.

Twenty minutes later, the ambulanceman came and took Xi Yue to the nearest hospital. Everyone was shocked and asked her aunt about what food she had fed Xi Yue. Her aunt was full of regret and apologized to Xi Yue's parents. But Xi Yue's parents did not say anything, just standing at the front door of the operating room.

An hour later, the doctor came out and said they had saved Xi Yue's life. Xi Yue's mom finally cried out.

LOVE AND STRUGGLE

It was the first September rain. The weather was wet and sultry. The school gate of Central University was crowded with students and parents. A girl with long straight hair stood at the gate with two huge suitcases. She is He Jie, 18 years old and majors in history. She is pretty and smart. She goes through the campus and takes pictures of everything. She is curious about everything in this new environment.

She walked to her dormitory and stepped to the second floor. She opened the door and saw another girl who was standing there and watched the beautiful views out of the window. That girl is Han Han who was the same major as He Jie.

"Hi, my name is He Jie. What is your name?" He Jie asked.

"Oh! I am Han Han. You are the first girl I met in our class today," Han Han answered.

"I am so excited today! We are in college now! Everything is so amazing," He Jie said with a big smile.

"I am excited too. This is my first time to live with other girls. This will be a lot of fun!" Han Han said and gave He Jie a big hug.

He Jie started her first year of college and everything was fine for the first few days.

One day, He Jie and Han Han went to a school meeting at their class room. The meeting was about a volunteer programs. Students who joined the program would go to the countryside primary school for three weeks of teaching during their winter vacation.

"Hi, can I sit by your side?" said a tall boy with a cool hair style.

"Yeah, sure!" He Jie responded.

"Em... It is nice to meet you. I am Wang Yi. What is your name?" Wang Yi asked.

"My name is He Jie," He Jie responded.

Wang Yi's expression told Yvonne that he liked her.

Wang Yi talked to He Jie during the whole meeting. He liked He Jie the first time he saw her. Wang Yi asked He Jie to have lunch at the cafeteria, and He Jie want Han Han could go with them. Wang Yi

was happy that He Jie can ate lunch with him.

After a few times meetings, Wang Yi asked He Jie for a date and asked her to be his girlfriend.

Just as Wang Yi thought, He Jie wanted to have a relationship .

Time flew. Three months passed quickly. Wang Yi, He Jie, and Han Han started a trip to the countryside near the university. They took the first train in the morning after they finished their final exams at school. They arrived at the primary school at five in the afternoon, and lived in the dorm where students stayed. After they started there in primary school, they learnt a lot from these students and had a lot of fun.

Things started to change before they ended the volunteer work. Han Han and Wang Yi's relationship became closer than Wang Yi and Han Han thought. Han Han and Wang Yi communicated during their spare time, and Wang Yi and Han Han did not realize that. After they went back to their hometown, Wang Yi started to miss life in the countryside and the time spent with Han Han. He finally realized that he liked Lily and felt guilty.

Two weeks later, the new semester began. He Jie found that Wang Yi changed.

He did not contact her very much in the summer vacation. Han Han and Wang Yi were closer when the second semester began. Wang Yi could not stop thinking about Han Han after they met and he decided to asked Han Han out and watch a movie. Han Han was very happy that Wang Yi liked her. On the first weekend of the new semester, Wang Yi and Han Han had their first date.

He Jie was unhappy. She felt everything had changed. One night in her dorm room, she wanted to talked to her best friend Lily. She said, "Han Han, are you still awake?"

"Yes," Han Han responded.

"Do you want to talk?" Yvonne asked.

"Sure," Han Han said.

"Wang Yi was changed after the volunteer work in the countryside. I am afraid that he no longer like me," He Jie said and burst into tears.

"Please do not cry, He Jie. I will always be by your side,"

After the talk that night, Han Han felt guilty and wanted to end the relationship with Wang Yi. She talked to Wang Yi and decided to have their last date and break up. Things did not develop as they thought. When Wang Yi and Han Han hung out at the shopping mall, He Jie was also there with her other classmates. He Jie and Wang Yi accidentally met. He Jie looked at them with in shock. Wang Yi did not know what to do and asked He Jie to leave first and promised he would explain everything after he got back to school.

That night, Wang Yi and Han Han broke up. Wang Yi went to He Jie's dorm room and apologized. He Jie was sad, but she forgave him. She loved Wang Yi and did not want to lose him.

Three years later, they were going to graduate from the Central University and start their new life. They were apprehensive about their future and wanted to have a better life when they got a job in the future. Wang Yi and He Jie were nervous about their relationship. Wang Yi decided to found a job in his hometown, He Jie decided to continued her study at Central University. Han Han and He Jie did no longer talked and Han Han moved to another city for work. They all had their own plan for their own future. After graduation, He Jie and Wang Yi finally broke up.

Ten years later, Wang Yi is married and have two beautiful daughters. He Jie got a good job and traveled to a lot of places. Han Han divorced with her husband and live a hard life with her one-year-old son. Their life track went in totally different directions.

FIONA AND ABIGAIL

Fiona and Abigail are friends who met in middle school and became friends in senior high school. Before high school they only knew each other's name. They seldom talked, because they were in different classes. After both entered the same high school, they started to hang out together. In the last year of high school, Fiona and Abigail become desk-mates. And beginning their friendship.

Because of the college entrance examination, their school work became progressively harder and harder. They had night class together at a teacher's home and went to their own homes late at night together. It was then that, they felt they were best friends. After the big exam, they were graduated from high school and started new lives. They received college offers from different school in different cities. They both felt bit sad for not being in the same colleges. They then decided to travel together to create some wonderful memories. After the graduation party, they started to Sichuan province. Their trip was amazing and made their relationship closer.

During the first year of college, they often shared photos on line and chatted through the internet. They stayed together every day when they were in their hometown. In their four years of college, they did not see each other very often, but often thought about each other.

Three years after they graduated from colleges, Fiona went to Shanghai and married. Abigail went to America and got a job. Both lived happy lives.



柳宇欣
Liu Yuxin
ADA

I am Liu Yuxin, and my English name is Ada. I was born on April 19 in the year of 1997 in Yulin Shaanxi Province.

There are four people in my family. My father is a businessman, my mother is a housewife and my brother is a student, who is 13 years old younger than me. My parents have set a good example to me, and they convey precious values, which have had a permanent effect on me.

I attended my middle and senior schools in Yulin. When I was in middle school, I did not study well until I met Mr. Li, a math teacher. When I was faced with problems, Mr. Li gave me appropriate suggestions and told me not to give up. With his help, I made much progress.

I will work hard and commit teachers' suggestions to mind and practice. Although I am not certain about the future, I will try my best to learn English well to make a better future.

A TERRIFYING CRASH

On Spring Festival Eve, paper scrolls were on both sides of each family's door. The city was alive with fireworks. Firecrackers crackled successively, fireworks were set off by children. On either side of the road, street vendors did a roaring trade. Some sold smelly tofu, some sold candied animals...

Wang Lei was an engineer working in Guangdong Province. On New Year's Eve, he returned to Jilin Province in time to have a dinner with family, memory the most important meal of the year. Wang Lei and his relatives ate, drank, and celebrated...

Three hours later, Wang Lei had drunk too much. He decided to go home. He was driving home when his car crashed into a guidepost. There was not enough time to react to the car accident, another vehicle came off on the right side immediately. Wang Lei hit the windshield. Look like a serious shot. Soon crowds surrounded the crash scene. Some people called for medical treatment. Some called for the police. Several minutes later, the ambulance came and took Wang Lei away for time-critical treatment. Wang Lei was hurried into a trauma center.

At the same time, the hospital informed Wang Lei's relatives that he had been involved in a vehicle accident.

Half an hour later, Wang Lei's relatives rushed to the hospital. The chief doctor told them that he was in bad condition and may end up in a permanent, vegetative state. On hearing this, Wang Lei's wife and his son burst into tears.

Outside the hospital, firecrackers were louder than during the day. Several kids ran after each other for candied animals. Families began to sit down to watch the Spring Festival Gala together. Much different to this, Wang Lei's family was in a gloomy situation as they experienced the most traumatic period. New Year for them was not congratulation, but a beginning of disaster, suffering.

FOREVER LOVE

Central University is a famous university in Jinzheng. Meng Xiaoyu is twenty and majors in English. This year she was first on the final exam again.

An activity called "quick love" is organized to help singles find a companying during a seven-day love trip. Meng Xiaoyu is pressured by her roommate to participate in. She is not interested in this so-called love trip, but she agrees to her roommate's sincere request.

When they come to the scene of the activity, many singles wait for the appearance of their true love. In one activity, Meng meets Cheng Xudong by chance, a handsome 22-year-old majoring in finance. In the following seven days, they have a good time and fall in love. They phone each other every day, walk to dormitory hand in hand...

Lin Jiahao is Meng Xiaoyu's senior, who has been loving Meng Xiaoyu for a long time. However, after being refused several times, Lin Jiahao gives up and loathes Meng Xiaoyu. A week later, Lin Jiahao makes an appointment with Meng Xiaoyu as he has planned and gives a hug to Meng Xiaoyu, which is encountered by Cheng Xudong, Cheng Xudong believes Men Xiaoyu is cheating him and she must fall in love with Lin Jiahao, he can't stand it and breaks up with Meng Xiaoyu.

A year later, an international summit takes place in Jinzheng, which offers a great many jobs. It's also a precious chance for Meng Xiaoyu, who prepares for this first interview. She makes up and dresses in a long and tight ball gown, which makes her beautiful. She gives a good performance at the conference and is praised by all the attendees, including Cheng Xudong. She is different, more mature, more charming, and Cheng Xudong in love at first sight. Now he is searching for her, in the taxi, the image of Meng Xiaoyu at the conference runs through his mind over and over.

Suddenly, he finds her, sitting by a bus window. He then orders the taxi to follow the bus. He stares at her, excited and eager. However, the bus goes far away. Cheng Xudong does not give up and he wants to catch her.

Cheng Xudong regrets that he misunderstood Meng Xiaoyu and broke up with her a year before. If he had not broken up with Meng Xiaoyu, they would have walked along the pathway hand in hand and

talked about various interesting event as before.

Unfortunately, now Cheng Xudong loses Meng Xiaoyu again.

The following day, Cheng Xudong is absorbed in regret. He tries hard to get out of his bleak mood. A few days later, Cheng Xudong falls ill. He now has a fever after days of little food and not enough sleep.

One of his friends takes him to hospital.

"Won't you call Meng Xiaoyu? We all know you love her and now you need her exactly,"

"No, since we broke up. It is best not to annoy her,"

Cheng Xudong remains sick, which frustrates his friend. His friend decides to call Meng Xiaoyu. Meng Xiaoyu worries when she is told this news and feels enormous regret. She agrees to the request of Cheng Xudong's friend and rushes to the hospital. When she enters the room, Cheng Xudong is sleeping innocently likes a little boy who needs to be cared for. It is time for supper, so she goes out to buy food. When she comes back and opens the door, she finds Cheng Xudong is not in bed. Suddenly arms clasp her tightly.

"Is it you? I thought I would not meet you,"

"Yes, I heard you were ill, and..."

"Meng Xiaoyu, I will love you forever. In the past year, I did not forget you. I tried to, but I couldn't,"

Cheng Xudong then tells her what he has hidden in his heart sincerely, for he is afraid she will leave again. Meng Xiaoyu is moved and wants to tell Cheng Xudong her miss. She replies "You must be hungry, I just bought supper," She goes to the table, takes out two pairs of chopsticks and two bowls. Cheng Xudong watches her quietly. He walks to the table to help her, just like a husband who is accustomed to accompany his wife in normal life. They have supper together. The light is projecting a soft beam and magically melting the embarrassment, misapprehend between them two person.

After supper, Cheng Xudong asks Meng Xiaoyu,

"I think we are the right one to each other. Would you be willing to be my wife?"

Actually, when Meng Xiaoyu met Cheng Xudong at summit, she was attracted by Cheng Xudong, he had the air of a man, lose a bit of dreamy, indecision. Today, Meng Xiaoyu met Cheng Xudong again, she found she herself still love Cheng Xudong. Meng Xiaoyu was

desired to accompany Cheng Xudong at the time.

"One will not cherish a person or a subject unless he loses it. Cheng Xudong, I love you. I am willing to be with you in future,"

At last, they hug each other tightly.

AN IMPORTANT TEACHER

There must be a person, who makes effects on us for a lifetime. He maybe is our parent, friend, or teacher, even just a stranger.

When I was in primary school, I was not good at learning and for me the most pleasure thing was playing. I always played card games with my classmates, laughing, which sometimes annoyed others. I would run after my friends during the break. However, in the end of terms, my happy days were to end. I was reproached by my teachers then, by my parents, and not allowed to play.

When I was in grade 5, Mr. Li became my math teacher. He is serious. Every morning he checked our homework one by one assigned before. If someone did not finish it, Mr. Li would command him go out until finished homework.

I was afraid I would be punished by him. Therefore, I finished my homework since then no matter by myself or copying others.

My outstanding performance intrigue my teacher and he appointed me to manage the whole class's homework, which means I must keep performance on and set a good example to my classmates.

With time went by, I made progress in math and topped ten in the final exam. It inspired me much and I realized the pleasure of learning.

Without Mr. Li, I am now a girl who wandering around to search for hopeless chance of job. It is exactly why I want to be a teacher. I want to help more students and I must be proud of it.



陈禹君
CHEN YUJUN
JENNIFER

My name is Chen Yujun. I was born on 17 November 1996 in Dongxing a small city which is next to Mong Cai, Vietnam. My parents lived in Dongxing for 25 years. When I was 4, we moved to Nanning, Guangxi. We live there now. Nanning is the capital of Guangxi.

I attended middle school at Nanning No. 14 Middle School which was near my house. After that, I went to Nannning No. 2 Senior High School. I had a good time there. My English teacher in high school taught me a lot and encouraged me to choose English as a major at university.

In the future, my family plan is to migrate to Australia. I need to learn English well to help them especially my brother who is 11. For a period of time, I need to take care of him by myself there. And I also want to be an English teacher in Nanning. I should spend an enormous amount of time to learn it well. More knowledge can bring me a good future.

THE BEST GIFT

Liu Ting couldn't help herself stand. She fell again at the front door of her house. She tried to breathe regularly. Nobody noticed she needed help. Most people were at home having dinner.

She shouted in fear, "Xiao Hua! Help!"

Her husband didn't hear because of the loud TV. It was Spring Festival and the Gala Evening was live on TV. Liu Ting was nine months pregnant. Fortunately, her neighbor's dog started barking. The neighbor, who was her relatives, came out and saw her. Her aunt ran to help. Liu's uncle called Xiao Hua, who rushed to see her.

Liu Ting whispered to Xiao Hua, "I am about to deliver. I feel terrible. We should go to hospital now,"

Her relatives and husband took her to a car, and drove to the nearest hospital. On their way, Xiao Hua held her hand and encouraged her. They arrived at the hospital in 15 minutes. Some nurses helped them and took Liu Ting into a delivery room.

After 3 hours, Xiao Hua was nervous. He blamed himself. Liu shouldn't have had an accident these days. Suddenly, two nurses hold 2 wailing babies walked out.

"Congratulations! You have healthy twin boys!" a nurse said.

Liu Ting slept in a hospital bed. Xiao Hua took care of her and their 2 babies, their New Year gift, the best gift the couple would ever receive.

As other students, Su Ling went to university after a long summer. Everyone came to find what they want and Su Ling was no exception. She worked hard to get into Central University which was far from her hometown. Her parents worried about her. Su Ling promised she could take care of herself but it was the first time for her to leave home alone. The day she went to school, everything went peacefully, though she didn't know what would happen.

On the first day, the weather was desert hot. Su Ling went up the stairs of her dormitory with her luggage difficulty. A girl was in her room, cleaning the floor when Su Ling entered. Su Ling introduced herself.

The girl said, "Hi, nice to meet you too. I'm Zheng Xinyi. I am a local of this city,"

Su Ling thought Zheng Xinyi might be her first friend in school. Everything went well. Zheng Xinyi helped Su Ling make her bed and clean her desk. They became closer after a morning. Su Ling shared food from her home with Zheng Xinyi. Xinyi had a lot to say about the city. Friendship grew.

At night, Su Ling called her parents and told them not to worry. After that call, Su Ling felt homesick and began weeping. She regretted her decision to leave her hometown.

Zheng saw tears in her eyes, went to her bed, and whispered, "Are you okay?"

Su wiped her tears with her hand and said, "I thought I made a wrong decision to come to this city. I miss my family!"

Zheng tried to comfort her, "Everything will be fine. It's just your first day here. You haven't experienced a fun here. You will meet some guys on campus and make friends with them. Clam down,"

After a long talk, Su calmed a lot. She couldn't sleep well at that night.

On the first week, they were often together. Su and Zheng became best friends. One day, someone played the guitar on the playground.

The boy who played the guitar attracted Su Ling.

She whispered to Zheng, "Look at that guy. He might be the head of the guitar corporation,"

"Do you want to join into guitar club?" Zheng replied.

Su said, "Yes, I do. Can you play the guitar? If you can't, I can teach you. And joining a club is a good way to make new friends in university,"

Zheng hesitated and thought it might be a good chance to to learn a new skill and make Su feel better. They joined the club and met the boy who played the guitar on the playground. He was Huang Ming, the head of guitar club. Su made friends with Huang. They chatted a lot and sent messages frequently at night. Huang came from the same city with Su. After a few days, they were in love.

Su Ling never had a boyfriend before. She was a newbie in love. Conversely, Huang Ming knew how to make girls happy and let them lean on him. Su was no exception. They dated every weekend. Huang was a senior and good at math. He helped Su with math difficulties. Su Ling spent most of her time on the relationship.

One day, Su planned to go to a yoga class with Zheng. They have planned it for a week. Zheng liked doing some exercises. She invited Su Ling to go with her and paid for them. They went to a bus station and tried to be on time for the class. Huang Ming called Su at that moment.

Huang said, "I bought two tickets for your favorite movie. It will start in twenty minutes. We should go to the cinema right now,"

Su said, "What a pity! I am going to have a yoga class with Xinyi now. I might not go with you. I'm sorry. We can see that movie tomorrow,"

Huang replied with a little anger, "The tickets can't be cancel. You should go to the yoga class next time and come to see me now,"

Su said, "There is no time for another yoga class. I have promised Xinyi to go with her..,"

Huang interrupted her, "I am your boyfriend. I must be more important than your roommate. If you don't come with me, I will consider to break up our relationship,"

It was not the first time that Huang threatened her and wanted

her to leave Zhang alone. This situation has been a month. Su was scared about his leaving. She thought for a while and decided to lie to Zheng again.

Su said, "Xinyi, I might get a headache. I am not feeling good to have a yoga class. I'm so sorry to say that,"

Zheng said, "Are you okay? What's wrong? Should I take you to a hospital?"

Su replied with nervous, "No! Thanks. You can go to your yoga class as planned. I can take care of myself,"

After a short conversation. Su Ling left the bus station for Huang Ming. They went to see the movie until night.

When Su Ling came back at night, Zheng was in the room. She didn't know how to start their conversation. Su felt guilty and still kept the secret. Su put her bag on the desk and went to bathroom. The movie tickets fell out of her bags to the ground. Zheng picked them up. She was shocked by the movie time on the tickets. The time was the same time as their yoga class. Suddenly, she realized that Su Ling lied to her. When Su came back, Zheng want her to explain.

Zheng said, holding two tickets, "You didn't have a headache, did you?"

Su found she couldn't hide the secret anymore, "No... I am so sorry for that. Huang Ming threatened to me. I don't have too much choice. I don't want him to break up with me!"

Zheng felt more anger and said, "It isn't the first time that he did so. He isn't a good man for you. You shouldn't be controlled by him! You even refused to have our major classes for a date. You should pay more attention to our study,"

Su said, "It doesn't matter. Huang can help me get through our final exams,"

Zheng angrily said, "You are in different majors. He couldn't teach you English grammar and anything about English. Huang Ming is selfish. He can't take good care of you. You should know that love isn't the only thing in your school life!"

Su said, "Don't criticize him! Who do you think you are?"

Su's attitude made Zheng angrier, but she said, "I thought I was your best friend, but now I think I was wrong," and left the dorm room

in tears.

Suddenly, Su Ling's mind came out of the clouds. Zheng was right. Huang Ming wasn't a good boyfriend for her. In their young love, Su Ling just a normal girl liked he had before, but he was so special to Su. Huang Ming didn't care about Su's feelings. When Su was ill, Huang even ignored that. She realized what she had done for a month. Her attitude and words hurt Zheng Xinyi. "How could I do this to Xinyi? What's wrong with me?" she thought.

When Zheng came back, Su burst into tears and apologized. They returned to their happy time. Zheng hugged her and cried. Su Ling realized her mistake and decided to reconsider the relationship with Huang Ming.

Su Ling began to pay more attention to her study and learned a lot from this young love. Su and Zheng were best friends again. Su Ling broke up with Huang Ming. Young love between them couldn't bring happiness for the future. Love should cheer you up and help you get through some problems. It shouldn't bother you. Friendship and love are both important to us. Don't mix them up and let your friends down.

TRADITION

The Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region is a place not known to many. Most of people know Guilin. Because it's picture printed on ¥20 note. Guilin is a big city of Guangxi. With it's beautiful mountains and clear rivers, a growing number of people come here to travel. The Zhuang nationality is the biggest in Guangxi. More than 50 million citizens live in Guangxi. Ninety percent of them are ethnic minority citizens. For me, I am Jing minority. Jing minority is a rare minority in the south of Guangxi where nears by Vietnam. There are about 30 thousand people in this minority. Seldom people know a lot about this minority. As a local people in Jing minority, sea is the most respectable thing in our life. People do business by fishing. There is a festival called Ha Festival in October. Ha festival is showing our honor to the sea and thanking for its kindness. I am 20 years old now but I only experienced once in Ha festival in 2008. Even most of the people forget their tradition, I claim that if we couldn't continue this habit, our children will not see our nationality anymore. Ha festival is so amazing that I can't forget easily.

On that day, my grandfather woke up early in the morning. He went to market to buy a lot of local food, such as fish sauce, rice cakes, and black sugar made by hand. We should bring those foods to the beach to celebrate this festival. At about nine PM, the sun shone so smooth, mountains of people brought tables and chairs on the beach. Women decorated tables with food and flowers, men sat by the table. After preparation, the village head sang a song which is written by himself loudly to the sea. The voice was clear and got echo by waves. People were listening to them peaceful, even children stopped crying and shouting.

Each family would bring a short song, it sang by the man in their families. Women just could listen and sang backup for their husbands. They could not sit by the tables. About two hours later, there were some performances by local band. They played an instrument called single string instrument. With voice of the sea waves and clear sky view, the scene was impressive on me. I proud of my nationality.

It's sincere and honest bring this nationality life and history. I will never forget this festival

Now, most of people forget their traditions. Modern life is convenient and fashion. But history needs us to protect. We couldn't only use mouth without actions. My grandfather attends this festival every year. I am in university far away from my hometown now. But I still proud of that I can introduce myself that I am Jing nationality. I would pleasant to tell everyone this mysterious minority. Such a few people in Jing nationality. How weak they can do to continue their tradition when society develop so fast. I will remember where I come from and what minority I am.



伍洲虹
WU ZHOUHONG
MOLLY

My name is Wu Zhouhong and my English name is Molly. I was born on March 5, 1997 in Hunan Province. I am an only child. My family moved to Shenzhen, Guangdong Province when I was five, where I lived until I finished my senior middle school in 2015.

I was an arts student in senior middle school. In China, the College Entrance Examination is a huge concern. Students are informed the importance of the College Entrance Examination on the first day they go to school. They work hard to get into their dream universities. I was no exception. Senior middle school was tiring because of endless exams, but it was also memorable.

I want to be a college teacher in the future. If possible, I would like to go abroad for further study after graduation. Getting a doctor's degree is a prelude to a college teacher, but it requires countless efforts and perseverance. I know it is hard to realize. Luckily, I have my parents in my corner, who always encourage me. I'm not a perfect

daughter, but they give me perfect love. I think the best way to show my gratitude is working hard on my study. I hope I will be able to take care of them when they are old.

SCALDING SOUP

It should be a joyful night. All the family members were sitting around a table to celebrate Spring Festival, a festival best representing happiness.

Li Mei was sitting on a bench outside an operation room, praying for her eight-year-old son. How could she have made such a foolish mistake! She should have kept him away from the scalding soup. She wished she was the one who had been burned.

When she heard her son cry loudly in pain, her heart plummeted, leaving only panic and anxiety. All her relatives shouted and rushed to the little boy. Too late. The hot soup spattered him.

The door of the operation room opened. The doctor came out. Li Mei jumped up. A nurse pushed the boy out of the room. She saw his little head wrapped in gauze. A hornet seemed to sting her heart. It was hard to breathe.

In the ward, Li Mei sat by her son's bed, clutching his little hand. She couldn't see the expression on his face. Was he frowning? Crying?

Some relatives came and comforted, "It was an accident. Don't blame yourself,"

How could she stop blaming herself! She didn't sleep for two days. She kept her eyes on her son. The sound of the vital signs monitor told he was alive, but unconscious.

"Pengpeng, I will buy you your favorite remote control car. I will take you to the amusement park. You can do whatever you want and I will buy whatever you like regardless of the cost. Please wake up!"

Pengpeng slowly opened his eyes. He found it difficult to move. He used up all his strength and only made one sound, "Ma..."

Tears rolled down Li Mei's face. She answered tremulously, "I'm here, Pengpeng. Always by you,"

FUTURE OR LOVE?

Jiang Yuan met Liu Tingting in the drama club at Central University. Both were interested in drama, and joined the drama club in their first college year. Central University would hold its annual evening party to celebrate the New Year. Their club would give a performance at the party.

After discussions, the club members decided to perform *Sleeping Beauty*. Jiang Yuan was selected to play the prince. He was handsome and polite. Girls in the club all had a big crush on him and wanted to be the princess in the play. Girls had to compete with each other by performing in the play. The best performer would be selected as the princess. Girls all tried extremely hard to get the role, but none of their performances compared with Liu Tingting's. When she stepped on the stage and began her performance, her voice was gentle and beautiful and her moves were so elegant that made everyone present was at a loss of words. She was born to be a good actress. Jiang Yuan was also deeply attracted by Liu Tingting.

Liu Tingting was chosen to play the princess and performed with Jiang Yuan on New Year's Eve. It was a great success. They won many bouquets and applause from the audience. After the performance, they liked each other and become a couple.

Like other couples in Central University, Jiang Yuan and Liu Tingting went to class and ate together. At night, they wandered the campus, holding hands. Before bed, they texted each other to say good night. Life was sweet like honey when they were dating. Their love put them on the top of the world.

Time flew quickly and the graduation was around the corner. Jiang Yuan worked hard at study and got good marks in all his subjects. His teacher suggested he go abroad for further study.

"Jiang Yuan, you are the top student in our major and you also have a good command of English. Why not go abroad to get a master degree?" Mr. Zhang said.

Jiang Yuan hesitated and said, "Thank you, Mr. Zhang. I will think about it,"

Jiang Yuan told his parents about Mr. Zhang's advice. His parents were happy when they heard it.

"Good job! We know you will be successful! We are so proud of you!" Jiang Yuan's father said on the phone.

"But I haven't decided to go abroad yet," Jiang Yuan replied.

"Of course, you have to go! Why hesitate? A bright future is belonging to you!"

Jiang Yuan did not want to disappoint and said, "OK, I will try to apply to some foreign universities,"

But Jiang Yuan didn't tell Liu Tingting about his plan because he was worried about her reaction.

After two months, Jiang Yuan got an offer from a famous university in America that offered him a full scholarship. Things were then settled and he had to tell Liu Tingting.

One night when they were walking on the campus as usual, Jiang Yuan suddenly stopped, turned to Liu Tingting, and looked at her seriously.

"Tingting, I am leaving for America soon," said Jiang Yuan.

Astonished by Jiang Yuan's words, Liu Tingting stood stiffly, not knowing how to react.

"I'm sorry to inform you so late because I didn't know how to tell you this. I thought everything was unsure so..."

Liu Tingting broke in, "you chose to inform me at the last moment? As your girlfriend, I didn't know you are planning to go abroad. Ridiculous!"

"I'm sorry, Tingting. I was afraid, afraid that..."

"Afraid what? Were you afraid that I would hold you back and not allow you to go to America? Yes! I would have opposed it because I don't want you to leave. I care about you. But you only care about yourself! You are selfish!" Liu Tingting cried and fled.

Jiang Yuan regretted hurting Liu Tingting's feeling. "What a stupid thing did I do," he muttered.

That night, Liu Tingting didn't reply to Jiang Yuan, though he repeatedly texted her.

Jiang Yuan didn't sleep the whole night. He anxiously hoped to be forgiven by Liu Tingting. He thought the only way to regain her

heart was to refuse the scholarship and stay with her. Jiang Yuan called his parents and said, "Dad, I don't want to go to America. I don't want to leave Tingting,"

"What? You mean you will give up your bright future for puppy love? What's wrong with you!" His father said, exasperated.

"Tingting is my girlfriend. I love her. It's not puppy love," replied Jiang Yuan.

"I don't care who she is! I only care about my son's future! You will ruin your life if you choose to stay with her. Only an idiot would refuse such a good opportunity. Don't call me 'Dad' if you dare do that!" Jiang Yuan's father yelled and hung up angrily.

Jiang Yuan buried his face in his hands, perplexed. He didn't know what to do. He felt himself standing on a fork of a road. Future or love? Which should he choose?

Jiang Yuan went to Mr. Zhang's office and told him about his confusion.

Mr. Zhang comfort him and said, "I know it is hard to make a choice. Everyone under the same situation would struggle. I know you love Tingting. Don't you want to give him a better life in the future?"

"Of course! I can give everything to her,"

"Tingting is lucky to have you, but as an older and experienced man I want to tell you something. One should learn how to love himself before giving his love to others. Before you take responsibility for another's life, you must be responsible for your own life. Smart as you are and I am sure you will not disappoint your parents," said Mr. Zhang.

"I agree," replied Jiang Yuan.

The next day, Jiang Yuan went to see Liu Tingting with a little gift. She was still angry but better than before.

Jiang Yuan started the conversation. "I must apologize that I shouldn't keep you in the dark about my leaving. I care about you. All I want to do is to give you a better life in the future. Please trust and forgive me," he said.

He took out a present and opened it. It was a plastic ring.

"This is not a genuine ring but it represents my sincerity. I promise that I will always love and miss you. My heart will be with you no matter how far I am from you. I will return and, at that time, I will

buy you a genuine diamond ring and propose to you. Will you wait for me?" Jiang Yuan asked Tingting sincerely.

Tingting gave him a big smile and said, "Yes, I will,"

Jiang Yuan was overjoyed and put the plastic ring on Tingting's finger.

SCRAMBLED EGGS WITH TOMATOES

Scrambled eggs with tomatoes is a common dish in China because it is easy to cook, which is also one of my favorite Chinese dishes. The taste of the scrambled eggs with tomatoes varies from one family to another. In my family, it is the taste of growing up.

My father is a bad chef, who seldom cooks at home. But he can make delicious scrambled eggs with tomatoes. There is an anecdote about my father and mother. When they just got married, my father once cooked the scrambled eggs with tomatoes for my mother. My mother tasted it and found it rather tasty, feeling herself lucky to marry a man who can cook. But after few years, she discovered that scrambled eggs with tomatoes was the only dish my father could cook.

My father grew up in a mountain area in Hunan Province, whose family was poor and made living by farming. Even today, two of my uncles still work as farmers in the old village. Dad is the only one who have been to college among his brothers. When asked how he managed to go to college, Dad replies, "Because I didn't want to do farm work anymore and going to college was the only way to rewrite my destiny,"

With this strong belief he held in his mind, Dad did pretty well in his study and was admitted by a university in Changsha, the capital city of Hunan Province.

After graduation, Dad went to Shenzhen along to find a job. As a young bachelor, the first dish he learnt was scrambled eggs with tomatoes. He found it easy to cook but tastes good, so he cooked it almost every day. That's the reason why he cooks scrambled eggs with tomatoes so well.

I asked Dad if he still like scrambled eggs with tomatoes after eating so many times. To my surprise, Dad said, "Yes,"

"Why?" I asked him.

"Because it reminds me of the days struggling for life alone in the big city. Those days were hard and frustrating but it was in those days that I first know my life could be completely different from before.

It was in those days that I was entitled to decide what to do and what my life should be. It was in those days that I first regarded myself as a young adult. For me, the scrambled eggs with tomatoes is the symbol of being independent," said Dad.



彭佩瑶
PENG PEIYAO
DORIS

My Chinese name is Peng Peiyao and my English name is Doris. I was born on 23 December, 1996 in Jingmen, Hubei Province, a small but beautiful city. Nourished by the Han River, a tributary of Changjiang, my hometown is famous for various freshwater fishes and sweet oranges. I lived there before I was 19 years old. In 2011, I attended Longquan Senior Middle School in Jingmen City, a very nice, beautiful school. I was well educated and graduated from there in 2015.

I do karate as my hobby. I really like it. It really builds up my body and willpower. Furthermore, I have made many friends in the karate club. I would like to practice it all my life. Hard as it is, I will try my best.

My maternal grandparents were both teachers. After they retired, they moved from the countryside to Jingmen City to take care of me. Influenced by them, while growing up, and even now, it is my dream to become a college English teacher. I hope to study better and

pursue master and doctor degrees, specializing in English language and English education.

Although I am poor at English communication and lack teaching experience, I have made progress in learning more colloquial English and finding internship opportunities. I hope my dream will come true one day.

HOLIDAY ACCIDENT

Spring Festival's Eve. The atmosphere was strange when I walked into Aunt Yanli's house. Her husband, Uncle Guopeng, was preparing a big meal. Other relatives were sitting on the sofa, discussing someone. After greeting my elders, I realized that they were talking about Uncle Hongtao, who I had seldom seen.

Uncle Hongtao was the eldest and only son of my maternal grandpa. In the 1970s, under poor conditions, Uncle Hongtao was brought up, receiving much care. He was bought a sound recorder to study English. He could add an egg for his breakfast every morning, which was his siblings could not imagine. He was spoiled. After he grew up, Uncle Hongtao worked as an electrical engineer and earned a lot.

However, Uncle Hongtao disappointed his parents. He became a gambler, squandering his wages on gambling. He ran up debts. He sold his house to resolve his debts.

His gambling and debts had estranged him from us. We met him once a year at the family reunion, on Spring Festival's Eve.

Uncle Hongtao had not shown up by 12:00 noon. My maternal grandpa sat on the sofa, with a long face.

Suddenly, the telephone rang. Uncle Guopeng answered, holding a spatula. A few seconds later, he threw the spatula down and shouted,

"Hospital! Hospital!"

Seated on hospital chairs, everyone was overcome with grief. A car accident. Grandpa silently looked away. He slowly stood up, turned to us and leaned against a wall and sobbed. He sobbed like a child. He was 72 years old.

Cheng Tianle had studied in Central University for about a month. When he first met Wei Wei, a beautiful, tall girl, at a freshmen class meeting, he fell in love. However, he was too introverted to show his true feelings.

After military training, the class Cheng Tianle and Wei Wei belonged to had to get books for students. All class leaders and some volunteers were expected to obtain the books. Wei Wei was a class leader, so had to participate. Cheng Tianle volunteered to help, which everyone appreciated, including Wei Wei. Cheng Tianle was pleased because he thought he now had a closer relationship with Wei Wei. Through this class affair, Cheng Tianle got Wei Wei's qq number. Later, he often chatted with her online. They talked about the changes after they entered the university, their hometowns, study struggles... Cheng Tianle thought Wei Wei was a positive, kind girl and was mesmerized.

Sometimes Cheng Tianle invited Wei Wei to have lunch or study together. He thus had more opportunities to get to know Wei Wei. Meanwhile, Cheng Tianle came to realize that he was not important to Wei Wei. There was considerable distance between them. Wei Wei treated him like a ordinary classmate, which frustrated Cheng Tianle.

One night, Cheng Tianle noticed a couple walking in front of him when he was jogging on the playground. The girl seemed familiar. Curiously, Cheng Tianle ran up to the couple and recognized that the girl was Wei Wei, who was taking her boyfriend's arm and was too excited to notice Cheng Tianle's presence. Cheng Tianle felt his heart sank and went back to his dorm room, disheartened.

After that, Cheng Tianle felt depressed and sad when he met Wei Wei on the campus. He continued to hide his feelings from Wei Wei, because he thought he should not hurt her feelings and wanted to protect her. Cheng Tianle thought Wei Wei's smile was the most beautiful and warm in the world. He resolved to do anything to keep her smiling on.

Cheng Tianle loved playing basketball and played it during his leisure time. Two girls often watched him playing, but they did not impress him very much.

After a math class, Cheng Tianle was going to play basketball with his roommates and saw those two girls again. He paid little attention to them and began to play basketball. While he was resting, one of girls handed him a bottle of water. Cheng Tianle looked up at her and declined the bottle of water with thanks.

The girl smiled awkwardly. Cheng Tianle chatted with her for a bit and then left the court. The girl was Zhang Xia, a freshman from the Physics Institute. She was enthusiastic and showed her crazy appreciation for Cheng Tianle. Everyday she bought him breakfast or drinks and went with him to study. She seemed to be telling the whole world that she loved Cheng Tianle, caring little about what others thought.

On Cheng Tianle's birthday, Zhang Xia gave Cheng Tianle a limited edition of sneakers, which embarrassed him. He thought he could not receive such a precious gift from a girl. Cheng Tianle thanked her and declined.

"Well, Zhang Xia, you know, you are such a nice person and I always feel energetic when I am with you. I really appreciate everything you've done for me. But I think we cannot be lovers. I cannot deceive you. You are a good friend," Cheng said.

Zhang Xia managed a smile.

"Well, it's so sudden, um...you know, I thought you would accept me. Well, that's OK," Zhang Xia said. She stared at Cheng Tianle with an eager look, hugged him, and said goodbye.

Cheng Tianle watched her leave. He was sad and sorrowful. He might hurt Zhang Xia but he could not deceive her. The most important thing was he could not forget another girl.

In math class, Cheng Tianle realized Wei Wei was absent. He worried a lot. She was a good student. He thought something bad might have happened to her. After class, Cheng Tianle asked Wang Jing why Wei Wei was absent. Wang Jing was one of Wei Wei's roommates. Cheng Tianle often saw her with Wei Wei. Wang Jing said Wei Wei had broken up with her boyfriend and was very upset, so she did not attend class. Cheng Tianle then decided to do something.

Cheng Tianle began chatting with Wei Wei online again. He told her the homework she had missed and then shared her a few funny videos from Weibo. After a few minutes, Wei Wei sent a happy icon

and thanked Cheng Tianle. That night, Wei Wei and Cheng Tianle chatted a lot, as they used to.

After that night, Cheng Tianle had a closer relationship with Wei Wei. They often had lunch and studied together. Wei Wei had good English skills and Cheng Tianle was good at math. They often talked about their study and helped each other. Cheng Tianle was happy that he could do many things with Wei Wei. Accompanied by Cheng Tianle, Wei Wei gradually forgot the past and became more optimistic.

In January, the final exam was coming. It was the first time for Cheng Tianle and Wei Wei to take an important exam after entering college. They didn't worry about the exam. They were confident. They had studied hard and were well prepared. After the exam, both were very pleased.

Then it was a winter holiday. Every student would go home. Cheng Tianle had to return to his home in Jiangsu Province while Wei Wei would go to Henan Province. Cheng Tianle would not see Wei Wei for over a month. A little sad, he left for home.

During the winter holiday, Cheng Tianle and Wei Wei stayed in contact online. Cheng Tianle shared Wei Wei pictures he had taken on his way home while Wei Wei told Cheng Tianle many customs about New Year in Henan Province. They chatted delightedly. Cheng Tianle thought they had known each other a lot and that he could now confess his love for Wei Wei.

On New Year's Eve, Cheng Tianle got up his courage and called Wei Wei.

"Happy New Year," he said, gently, "I am so happy I can do many interesting things with you. I want to accompany you for a longer time. I want to get more involved in your life, share your joys, sorrows, and pain. Can you be my girlfriend? Please give me a chance,"

After a moment's silence, Cheng Tianle heard a gentle and beautiful voice.

"Well, I just really want to say thank you. It is you who always protects and accompanies me. You know that, my answer is yes,"

Cheng Tianle looked up at the sky of the last night that year, feeling warm and delighted. He would not be alone. There was a girl who would accompany him in the following days.

GOOD AND BAD HOSPITALS

If you show some signs of illness, you may go to a hospital. So I will tell you a story about the differences between good and bad hospitals.

One day this summer, I had a sore throat, so I went to a hospital. When I entered the diagnosis room, the doctor welcomed me, gave me a glass of water, chatted with me, and checked me. She said my throat was badly inflamed. After a routine blood test, she said that my white blood cell was high and I needed a drip. She reminded if I went to the hospital some days later, my throat would be too inflamed to make a sound.

I had gone to another hospital before. I was given a cold reception as soon as I entered the diagnosis room. Nobody welcomed me and the doctor was writing on his desk with a long face. I said I had a sore throat. He did a simple check. Glancing through my routine blood test paper, he prescribed some medicine, suggested I drink lots of hot water. That was it. He then began working without a smile again.

There are many differences between good and bad hospitals. The good ones receive hundreds of patients and have no time to give you a warm welcome. The most important thing is the good hospitals will never scare you and they will never make a big fuss over a minor issue.



安秀玲

AN XIULING
ANNA

I am An Xiuling and my English name is Anna. I was born on 3 January, 1995 in a little village in Qinghai Province. My parents are farmers. At the age of 18, I attended the No. 1 Middle School of Huangzhong County for three years of senior school life.

My hobbies include listening to music, reading novels, and watching Western movies. I am energetic and like to make friends and chat. My favorite subject is English. My major is English translation, but I want to be an English teacher. Nothing is impossible if you put your heart into it. I will try my best to improve my English skill.

I'm looking forward to my future life with a beautiful house with a big yard. I and my family will live happily and I won't need to worry about my parent's health. I will have an excellent job and could make much money every month. There will be nothing troublesome around us. Our family will have a simple but comfortable life till we are old

CHAOTIC NEW YEAR'S EVE

On New Year's Eve, the streets were festooned with lanterns and reechoed with the sounds of gongs and drums. Relatives and friends gathered to celebrate the New Year. Every family had a sumptuous feast.

I went home to spend this special festival with my family. Mother and Sister prepared a hearty meal. We watched the Spring Festival Gala and ate a big meal. Then we sang and danced joyfully. What happiness!

When the clock struck twelve, the black sky was lit by lots of fireworks with colorful light and happy sounds. We stopped singing. Young people went outside to see the fireworks, and various lanterns lining the streets. We also began to set off fireworks. What a beautiful night!

Suddenly, Brother shouted, "Look! Look! Accident,"

Just at that moment, I saw a black car bump a motorcycle. A big truck had hit the car because of faulty brakes. Everyone on the street was shocked. We ran to see it. There was a pool of blood on the ground. Nearby was a man whose feet trembled slightly. The car's windshield was broken. The driver was stuck in his seat, his face covered blood. Some people were trying to help the driver get out of the damaged car. One man was calling to the police and hospital. A lot of cars were jammed on the road.

An ambulance and police men came. The injured man was put in the ambulance and taken away. After the police's inspection, they found that the driver was drunk. The police photographed the accident scene.

An accident broke the joyful atmosphere of the New Year's Eve. At the same time, it also warned people not to drunk driving. We were shocked by the scene then went home.

PEPPERMINT CANDY

On the occasion of the school opening, the school held a freshman opening ceremony. It was the first time for Yimo and Zixuan to meet. They were the representatives of male and female freshman and gave a speech to all the students. Yimo was nervous and the draft he had recited several times in his mind was a blank. He turned his head and looked at Zixuan, who looked relaxed and comfortable with her hair tied in a ponytail. The president was talking, "Celebrating our famous university brought fresh blood,"

"Aren't you nervous? We are next one," Yimo said to Zixuan. Zixuan took a piece of peppermint from her pocket, "eat it. It will make you cool and calm," Yimo took it, but he didn't put it in his mouth. When it was time for him to speak, he had a leg cramp. He opted to read his talk. Zixuan, on the other hand, went to the stage with nothing in her hands. She spoke with confidence and composure and got much applause.

After that speech, they all entered the Student Union. Zixuan was again sucking on a peppermint candy. Zixuan said jokingly, "when I was a child, I had tooth decay. I always tried to have fresh breath,"

She opened her mouth like a child and said, "See my teeth. They are so ugly, my mother told me no boys would like me,"

"No, there will be people who love you," Yimo smiled and said. In fact, he didn't say what was on his mind "It's me who can love you,"

Zixuan was not aware of this. She laughed and said, "an ugly boy wrote a love letter to me. And a former classmate from Tianjin came to see me. He said he liked me in junior high school. That's really funny,"

Yimo laughed too and thought she was confused and would never like him.

Actually, Zixuan liked Yimo when they first gave speeches. He wore a white shirt and blue jeans. Two rows of nice teeth were on display when he smiled. At that moment, Zixuan wondered if he could be her boyfriend. Love happens only in a moment. A welcome party, he represented his class and sing on stage. She looked at him with eyes full of love. He stood with bowed head. He finished singing, stepped down from the stage, and didn't say anything to her. Zixuan was a little

upset. Another disappointment was that when she told him someone liked her, he was indifferent. She thought maybe she was too sentimental. With this thought, she put her hand into pocket to find a peppermint. Every time she was bored or sad, she unconsciously ate peppermint. It was like a cool wind and made her relaxed.

Several months later, Zixuan had a boyfriend from the Foreign Language Department. He was a Spanish major. She said, "I have a boyfriend," when she saw Yimo again, trying to enrage him.

"Congratulations! I have a girlfriend," Yimo said. Actually, he just cheated others and himself.

During the second term, in an exchange student project, Yimo left to another school to study for two years. He sent Zixuan a box of peppermints before he left. She was sad to said, "Even there are a lot of peppermints, one day they will be eaten. You may not be here at that time."

Yimo forced a smile, and said, "When you grow up, probably you won't eat them anymore."

The day when they were at the train station, Yimo asked, "How do you say goodbye in Spanish? Say goodbye to me in Spanish, or I'll cry,"

She said gently, "Tea'mo, Tea'mo," several times.

Although he hadn't learned Spanish, he remembered this phrase and said happily, "It proves you have a boyfriend who learns Spanish. Nice to hear your pronunciation,"

Dhe was trying to make him jealous. Now, her aim was not realized. She broke with her boyfriend. At the same time, she thought that if Yimo liked her, he must say his thoughts to her earlier. Up to now, Yimo had not mentioned his affections. She felt very upset.

The two years' exchange program passed liked a dream and quickly ended. But Yimo had the habit of buying peppermint, which he didn't eat. He had learned to like the flavor, bitter and cold, like first love. Many times he often thought of the girl who loved to eat peppermint. With this thought he felt unhappy. Sometimes he felt regret. If he had said his thoughts to Zixuan, there might have been a different reality he thought.

By accident, he came met a friend who was learning Spanish. After chatting with him, he knew that "Tea'mo" didn't mean goodbye, but I love you. He felt faint and his eyes watered. In the face of love, he was

so giddy. If the time could flow backwards, he would rather be refused. He will try to say what he thought.

Another September. Yimo returned to school and found Zixuan. Once in September, she had sucked on a peppermint and gave one to a shy boy next to her. The picture seemed to be in front of them. At the moment of the meeting, they were all amazed. He took a box of peppermint from his pocket. Zixuan was shocked and asked, "Do you like to eat peppermint, too?"

Yimo replied, "No, but there is a girl who does. These are for her and I will give her peppermints all the time if she likes," This simple sentence had expressed all his thoughts.

Zixuan's eyes watered, but she smiled. Yimo hugged her and said, "Tea'mo," The last year of the university was a good time. They did almost everything together. They helped each other and graduated. Of course, they had a beautiful love.

Love in college, clean and pure, but a little distressed. It was unforgettable but there was some sadness. There is a collection of happiness from college in our heart. Because of this happiness, the life will be a lot of color. Even if the past changes, the heart always provides good memories.

A PAINFUL MEMORY

Everyone has different experiences in his whole life. There are good memories and painful memories. When I was in my Senior three, I had gone through a very painful and uncomfortable experience.

In China, Senior three is a very important year during every student's studying years. So every student should put their whole hearts into study, but I didn't. My father got serious illness. At that time, I had been always at school. So I didn't have much time back home to look after my father. Of course, it never occurred to me that my father's illness was serious. On a Sunday, I went to school as usual and said goodbye to my father. But I never thought this goodbye had become forever.

Finally, the college examination was coming, I was glad to enter the examination room. But I didn't know my father has already left me. Until the end of all the subjects, the family told me the truth. For a moment, I felt like the sky was falling. It's hard for me to accept the fact. So far this has been a year, in my heart it is a big pity that I didn't see my father for the last time. This has become the most painful memory of my life.



魏淋媛
WEI LINAI
LUCIA

My name is Wei Linai. My birth date is April 11, 1997. I was born in a small village of Shaanxi Province. My family moved to Jingbian Country town when I was in grade six. I went to Jingbian No. 6 Middle School. I had a lot fun and have many memories from that school. Next, I attended Jingbian Middle School which was a high school. It was far from my home so I had to board.

I am a child of single parent family. Although I have an imperfect family, I am confident. My mother often tells me "Go ahead! Change your attitude. The world will smile at you,"

I am strong and optimistic. In my free time, I like making friends and learning new things. I also like reading.

I switched my major from philosophy to translation so I have lower English ability than other students. However, I am never tempted to give up improving.

My plan for the future is very clear. I'm going to be a teacher in high school so that I can support my family. In the meantime, I want to continue with postgraduate educate when my family economic condition is better. I'll go straight ahead to realize my dream.

Thank you for your concern about the heavy snow that has swept across many parts of China. Actually, it is the worst snow disaster..." reported the TV on the bus.

The heavy snow had influenced road conditions. This was the last bus to the village where Da Wei grew up before Spring Festival.

Da Wei was on the crowded bus. The air was very rank and the noise was loud. Some children kept crying, but he didn't feel uncomfortable at all. Working outside for a year, he had come home.

Looking at the houses along the way, Da Wei couldn't help but feel excited. People had decorated their houses with paper cuts, New Year Prints, and spring couplets, enhancing the joyous atmosphere.

Da Wei took out a red silk scarf he had bought for his mother. He could imagine how beautiful his mother would be when she wore it.

Suddenly, the bus began shaking. The driver braked and skidded on the snowy shoulder of the road. The bus turned over twice and then fell into the river. No one survived.

Soon news reached that village "Da Wei died in a bus accident," His mother heard. She didn't believe it until Da Wei's corpse was brought home, along with that red scarf. When his mother saw this scene, she began crawling round his body, howling. She soon fainted.

She was taken to the hospital by her next-door neighbor. All her relatives came and held a funeral for Da Wei. Then, they left.

In the next few days, the old mother wore the red scarf and murmured "Da Wei, my darling boy. Come! Please go back!"

The villagers supposed that she had become mad.

TANGLED LOVE

After half a year, Yan Ni saw Zhang Wei and Liu Jun again. They stood at the school gate and looked around, as though looking for someone. When they recognized her with a shock, Yan Ni smiled and came towards them. It seemed that time froze and memories began to play like a movie.

One wonderful afternoon full of warm sunshine, there was an art festival at Central University. Yan Ni was the hostess of the event. She walked into the dressing room and bumped into a boy unintentionally. He raised his head and opened his eyes as though a match had been struck in a dark room. Yan Ni knew she had fallen in love at this first sight of him.

The boy said sorry and left at once.

Yan Ni asked a classmate near her for the boy's name. She learned the boy was Zhang Wei. He was a music major. He and his band would perform in the art activity.

Yan Ni began to pay more attention to Zhang Wei. Yan Ni learned about that he and his band played the guitar and sang popular songs in the playground every night. So she followed him to show her support. She also pretended to meet him by chance sometimes. Actually, she waited in a place he passed everyday. Gradually, Zhang Wei made friends with her. Yan Ni was very excited it was like she had gone to heaven. When they got together, they shared their ideas and hobbies. Sometimes, they chatted deep into night, time passed before they knew it. When Yan Ni was puzzled by some questions, his voice inspired her and brought forward new ideas that led to excellent solutions. On weekends, they often rode bicycles around the alley ways climbed mountain, and even visited the zoo to give the monkeys nicknames. What a miracle! Yan Ni loved Zhang Wei.

One night, Yan Ni asked Zhang Wei to have dinner. Afterwards dinner, she gave him a nice guitar. Zhang Wei realized it was his birthday. Yan Ni seized this chance and expressed her love.

Zhang Wei was moved and accepted. Happiness was theirs. It seemed the world belonged to them. That was the start to their love

story.

Liu Jun was Yan Ni's deskmate. He had a handsome face and strong body. He fell in love with Yan Ni and wrote love letters to show the intensity of his passion. She refused. He stubbornly never gave up even though she had a boyfriend.

Yan Ni was worried. Zhang Wei comforted "you are so charming. I care nothing but you. Let it go," Yan Ni was very happy that he understood her. In the next few days, the three of them often did some things together because Yan Ni couldn't get rid of Liu Jun.

During these days they had been together, Zhang Wei and Liu Jun often had same topic to talk but ignored Yan Ni. She realized Zhang Wei had mentioned Liu Jun several times and paid more attention to Liu Jun than hers.

One day, the three of them went to a restaurant and ordered lamb spine hot pot. Zhang Wei reached over with his chopsticks to refill Liu Jun's bowl. He ignored Yan Ni.

Yan Ni asked Zhang Wei to refill her bowl out of jealousy. Zhang Wei frowned but kept his composure. Zhang Wei's silence irritated Yan Ni and she shouted to Zhang Wei. An air of embarrassment settled over the restaurant. Yan Ni ran out angrily.

This was the first time they quarreled. As time went on, they began to constantly quarrel.

Finally, Zhang Wei grew tired of this life. One night, he admitted to Yan Ni that he fell in love with Liu Jun. His feeling was too strong to avoid. Yan Ni was so sad that she couldn't accept the fact.

After that, Yan Ni often had fat meals. Almost every night, Zhang Wei turned up in her dreams, in white wedding clothes holding a bouquet of flowers in hand, asking her to marry him. Yan Ni's mind was full of Zhang Wei's handsome face, his sweet smiles, his tender kisses.

The weather was getting colder. Winter drew near closer. Yan Ni worried that the weather was too cold for Zhang Wei. She planned to go to buy wool to knit him a jumper before they broke up. However, she didn't need to do it now.

When Liu Jun heard Zhang Wei fell in love with him, he was thunder-struck. But he could not deny that he was in love with Zhang

Wei. He felt guilty and apologized to Yan Ni.

Day by day, Yan Ni reflected on her own romance. She was not sure if she really was in love with Zhang Wei. She realized her love was blind. She was crazy about Zhang Wei just prove the degree of her preceding loneliness. She felt relieved suddenly. The girl who was outgoing and smart returned to normal.

The memories stopped here. Reality returned. Yan Ni looked at Zhang Wei and Liu Jun peacefully. Watching them hold hands, she wished them happiness. She found a reason to leave and as she turned, she knew everything was gone.

AN UNFORGETTABLE MEMORY

At the time of high school, our classmates and teachers were in a nervous condition. They studied hard and wanted to be admitted by a key university. My head teacher was a middle-age man who was very strict and loved criticizing people.

On the afternoon of Friday, I was so tired that I did not want to look at textbooks at all and I needed to have a rest. So I took out a comic book furtively under the desk and began to read. Suddenly, I heard someone knocking my desk when I was addicted to reading it. I supposed that my deskmate played a trick on me and I ignored it. But an air of nervous and sadness settled over the classroom and I looked up as my head teacher in front of me. He kept a straight face and called me outside the classroom. He shouted at me, "You are stupid. Why not studying hard? No pains, no gains. If you study hard, you will gain high marks on the college entrance examination and have a bright future,"

At that time, I was unwilling to submit. Later, I was particularly grateful to his timely help.



程倩
CHENG QIAN
JASMINE

My name is Cheng Qian, and my English name is Jasmine. I was born on 6 October, 1996 in Gansu Province in a small village that is serene and beautiful, located at the foot of the Qilian Mountains. I lived there before I was nine and then my family moved to Wuwei City which is not very far from the village. Wuwei is a small city in the center of Gansu, and famous for its culture, because it used to be the capital of the Western Liang Dynasty.

After graduating from junior middle school in Wuwei, I went to Zhangye where I lived in my aunt's home for three years to attend Zhangye High School.

Now I am an English translation major student. I wish to have perfect English when I graduate, and continue to do postgraduate study. I hope I have a job that I enjoy and lead a happy life for my parents, my younger sister, and younger brother. I hope I have a happy family and a few close friends. That's enough for me.

AN UNFORGETTABLE SPRING FESTIVAL

It was Spring Festival Eve of 2014. Jun and his parents planned to drive to their hometown to visit their relatives. It had been several years since they had left their hometown, so they wanted to go back and spend the Spring Festival there. They bought firecrackers, meat, fruits, and gifts for their relatives.

Excited and full of expectation, they set off.

Meanwhile, in hometown their relatives cooked various delicious food, preparing a rich feast.

Shortly after Jun and his parents set off, it began to snow. The snow continued to fall heavily. Unfortunately, they got stuck on a backed-up freeway because of an accident caused by the snow. It seemed that they would have to wait for some time.

As the temperature in the car dropped, Jun shivered with cold. He took out his down jacket and put it on. Gradually he felt warmer. However, soon he felt cold again. His mother gave him some food. She told him it would help if he was full up. The food was cold, and it didn't seem to help. He didn't feel better but worse. He had a fever. His parents were worried but there was no medicine to give him. The freeway remained blocked. They could only wait.

Finally, the road was open. Jun and his parents started their trip again. They sped up because Jun had a fever.

One hour later, they reached their hometown. They went directly to a hospital. A doctor checked Jun and gave him some medicine. He told him he would be fine if he just took the medicine.

Finally, Jun met his relatives before darkness set in. They had a happy celebration.

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL TIME

Nuoyan is beautiful, outgoing, and friendly. Everybody likes her. Many boys chase her, but Nuoyan refuses them all for only one reason - she has a boyfriend and she love him so.

Her boyfriend is her high school classmate Liyang, who didn't do well in his study, but played football very well. Maybe this is why he appealed to Nuoyan. He found Nuoyan was cute and gradually grew fond of her. Liyang eventually liked Nuoyan so much that he began to study harder in order to be admitted to the same university as Nuoyanl. Finally, everything he did paid off. They were admitted to the same university and become a campus couple.

College life was not as busy as high school. Nuoyan and Liyang had lots of time to be with each other, though they had different majors. They went to the canteen and studied in the library. On weekends, they went outside and watched movies, hung out and ate various snacks. They were happy.

One day, Nuoyanl felt uncomfortable, and told Liyang who suggested she have a medical examination. She agreed. They went to the college hospital where doctor checked Nuoyan and said, "You need to have an examination in a bigger hospital to exclude the possibility of cancer,"

These words shocked Nuoyan and Liyang. Nuoyan felt very upset.

They went to a big hospital the next day. After the examination, they were told to wait for three days. The next days were a torment. Everyday Nuoyan cried in Liyang's arms and said, "What if I have cancer? What if I am going to die? What would you do? What about my parents?"

Every time Liyang heard this, his heart broke. How scared he was, but he couldn't let Nuoyan see that, because he was the only one she could rely on. He pretended to be relaxed, "Listen, baby, you won't die. You are so lucky, God won't let you die, trust me, OK?"

Nuoyan nodded, but she still was very upset.

Finally, it was time to pick the results. The doctor told Nuoyan that she was fine, she just needed to eat more to make her body stronger. She was too thin and weak. Nuoyan and Liyang took a long deep breath

and laughed. It was a false alarm!

They then loved and cherished each other more. They often talked about their future - the house they would live in when they married, how many children they would have, who would cook, and who would do the laundry. How sweet it was!

One Friday afternoon, Liyang was playing football on the sports ground with his teammates. Nuoyan was watching her boy running, quickly and energetically. When he scored, he cheered like a little boy and run up to Nuoyan to get a loving hug or a kiss. Suddenly, Nuoyan saw the monitor of her class walking towards her, "I am looking for you, Nuoyan," the monitor said. "The counsellor has something need to tell you. Let's go now,"

Nuoyan left with him. Just at that time, a falling leaf fell on Nuoyan's head, but she didn't feel it. The monitor removed it. Liyang happened to saw this and was very angry but he couldn't leave his game, so he tolerated it.

After a while, Nuoyan came back. The game was over. Nuoyan wanted to call for Liyang, but saw a girl run up to him and give him a bottle of water. Nuoyan was dumbfounded, turned, and walked to her dormitory. She cried, thinking that other girl was between her and Liyang. Nuoyan waited all night for Liyang to call, while waited for her to call him.

One day, two days, three days passed. They still didn't call each other. They didn't meet. This matter seemed to get worse. They were conscious of this, but neither gave in.

Finally, Liyang could stand no longer and called Nuoyan. Nuoyan answered and couldn't help crying.

Liyang asked Nuoyan why she didn't call him.

She described what she had seen that afternoon.

Liyang laughed. "Why are you laughing?" Nuoyan asked.

"Oh! Honey! That girl is my teammate's girlfriend, she gave a bottle of water to each of us!" Liyang replied.

Nuoyan began to laugh, too. "Why didn't you call me earlier?" She asked.

"I saw a boy touch you head," Liyang said quietly.

This time it was Nuoyan's turn to laugh. "He is my monitor! He just took a fallen leaf from my head. He didn't touch my head!" Nuoyan

said.

Liyang was now shocked.

They both laughed merrily. They made up and were happier than before.

A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY

I got a part-time job during this National Day holiday--- working in a car exhibition.

The work was to make meeting place clean and tidy, as well as teach children to play games. The work was not too hard even a little boring, but I still felt tired when I got off work and backed to my dormitory.

However, there still had pleasing things happen, I met a lot of people there especially my workmates. They are college students, too, from another school who did part-time job just like me. They are all great guys, friendly and outgoing, they also often helped me with my work just because I am a girl and younger than anyone of them.

At last, I got 500 RMB salary, it is the first payment of life, and it was the first time for me to do a part-time job. I felt proud and happy, not only because I earned something, but also I've met so many funny people and broadened my horizons.



马荣超
MA RONGCHAO
TROY

My father named me Ma Rongchao. He hoped me would become a man who love doing many beneficial things to society like superman and "Chao" also means super.

I was born on August 29, 1995. Now I am 21 years old. Many students in China have same age with me are senior students in the university but I am now a sophomore, the main reason is that I was born in a village, which educational system was not so good I had to start my schooling late.

When I was 16, I attended a senior middle school in my county. That school was not the best but students in there worked harder. After three years of study, we attended the college entrance exam. I failed, however, I was confident in so I decided to try again, I was successful the second time.

Now I am a student at a university, that provides students with many chances. I am making full use of these opportunities to expand my knowledge and improve my ability. For the future, I want to be a good teacher, because teachers are respected.

AN ACCIDENT

As a college student, Zhang Hua can always enjoy winter vacation early. In the first few days, he did not go anywhere, just stayed at home with grandparents and parents. He knew that they missed him so much during the days he was at college.

Time went by. Spring festival was coming. Many people in china started their holidays. There were more people in the street. The air seemed sweeter. Everyone wore a smile. Had seen many relatives backed home, Zhang Hua was glad because they always treat well to Zhang Hua, the most important thing was Zhang Hua had many kinds of topics and can discuss them with his sisters. When Zhang Hua visited one of his sister, he was told that he would be an uncle, Zhang Hua felt amazed and happy with this surprising new. Later they chatted a lot and the sister agreed to visit Zhang Hua's parents the next day when Zhang Hua prepared to leave.

Next day morning, Zhang Hua and his parents got up early and prepared many things to welcome relatives, particularly his sister, who was pregnant. People turned up one after one, when the time of meal came, Zhang Hua still didn't see his sister, Zhang Hua felt something not good had happened to his sister, because she always cared about time. Zhang Hua thought and called his sister, but no answered. Zhang Hua had to come her home to found if his sister came across any trouble. When Zhang Hua arrived, he was right, his sister was hurt in an accident in the road in front of her home and no car and person around at that time. What's worse was that much blood came from his sister and it's dangerous for her and the baby in her body. Zhang Hua had to call relatives to help and soon after they came. Hours later, in hospital, his sister woke up and thanked to the doctor, baby didn't be affected.

The sister told Zhang Hua that she hit by a car when she prepared to go. Though the driver had escaped, the sister chose to forgive. Fortunately, both she and her baby were healthy, this was the best consequence.

The day was sunny. The air seemed very sweet to Yo Qi, because it day was her first college day at Central University. With the help of her mother, she finished freshmen need to do. Her mother then returned home. Yo Qi was very sad after her mother left. It was the first time for Yo Qi to live outside her home. Before leaving, her mother said, "My dear daughter, I have to leave. Keep warm and full. Study hard,"

Time passing, Yo Qi found she had more spare time than in high school. She joined different clubs and saw various people, made many friends. Yo Qi was pretty and always friendly. Many boys wanted to make friend with her. Yo Qi was not prepared to be in love with anybody in the beginning, however. When she saw many lovers in college while she was alone. Even her roommates fell in love. All of this encouraged Yo Qi. Because of this, she chose a boy, Tan Kai, who was her classmates in high school and college. Knew Tan Kai loved her. He had told her this fact in high school. So Yo Qi thought Tan Kai was a good choice for love. They then did many things together, such as having meals and studying in library. Tan Kai was very happy to see Yo Qi everyday and tried his best to make her happy. They were often together and went to the cinema on weekends. But some things did not go smoothly, Tan Kai gradually found that Yo Qi did not love him deeply as she should to be. Meanwhile, Yo Qi was depressed, she looked back on the days they had and things they experienced, she found that when she stayed with Tan Kai, she had little affection for Tan Kai. She just treated Tan Kai as a good friend. Maybe the relationship between them was more friendship than love. Yo Qi could not treat Tan Kai as he treated her. What a big mistake Yo Qi had made. Sometimes Yo Qi cried heavily for their wrong love, many times she wanted to tell the truth to Tan Kai, but whenever she realized how much Tan Kai loved her, she was dared not hurt him. She did not want to make Tan Kai sad.

Yo Qi did not know how to do but continued with her mistake. Sometimes Yo Qi thought Tan Kai was a kind and sweet boy, maybe they could have a better future. So they still the lovers in college, Tan

Kai was a careless boy so he did not know Yo Qi's true thought.

Things went on as usual, then, there was one thing happened unfortunately. One day, Yo Qi attended a party alone. The party with a few people and not bustling with noise and excitement, so people in party decided to start a game. Turned to Yo Qi, she was asked to be a boy's partner. The boy's name was Yuan Xiaowei. The game went very successful, due to Yuan Xiaowei was a clever and careful boy, they won that hard game. After the game, they chatted and discussed many different things. What's more was that both Yo Qi and Yuan Xiaowei considered that they had many similar hobbies and experiences. Rational and clearly structured they became closer very quickly liked old friends. When Yo Qi returned to her dormitory room, she could not help thinking about Yuan Xiaowei, all of his words and behaviors. Whole that night, Yo Qi was in a world of only two persons which she created, Yuan Xiaowei and herself.

The next, Yuan Xiaowei phoned Yo Qi and to go to another college to attend an event Yo Qi quickly agreed. Day after day, Yuan Xiaowei and Yo Qi met together. Yo Qi gradually found that she loved meeting Yuan Xiaowei and she realized she was in love with him and he was her true love. Yo Qi was not only happy about this fact but she also felt conflict, because she had Tan Kai, though she did not love him, Tan Kai was a kind boy and loved Yo Qi deeply. Yo Qi did not know how to deal with this. On the one hand, she had found a boy she loved, the other hand, she had already had a boyfriend. Yo Qi wanted to tell Tan Kai, but only thought about it. She did not want to hurt anyone, particular the one who loved her deeply.

Time went by. Yo Qi did not know what to do with two boys, Tan Kai and Yuan Xiaowei did not know about the other. Yo Qi was terribly stressed and could not concentrate on anything in study or life.

Finally, Yo Qi was hospitalized, Tan Kai looked after Yo Qi everyday. Yo Qi was moved. She could not give the true love to Tan Kai and she cried again which made her weak. Tan Kai was too stupid to understand what Yo Qi thought.

With no choice, Yo Qi thought she must tell the truth to Tan Kai. Tan Kai was quiet then sobbed heavily after Yo Qi told everything. Yo Qi also cried, she thought she was bad.

Tan Kai hugged Yo Qi tightly, few minutes later, Tan Kai and Yo

Qi cried until the next morning.

Tan Kai did not come to see Yo Qi in two weeks. He told Yo Qi that if she could be happy, he was willing to give her up. Tears streamed down on his face.

Two years later, on a sunny day, three people walked on the road. All wore smiles. They were Yo Qi, Tan Kai and Yuan Xiaowei, they became best friends after that thing. Their story was known by students around them, which made up a famous beauty in Central University.

TRAVEL

In my life, there are a lot of interesting experiences. On 12 August 2015, I left my hometown for university. Then I took a bus to Nanjing with my father. To Nanjing. We found the train station. We spent about two hours in the waiting room and then boarded the train from Shanghai to Lanzhou.

The train was crowded with strangers. However, several hours later, we were chatting and joking with others. A boy in front of me gave me the impression he was also a student to study further. When he was on the seat, he still repeated many English words, which made me feel admiration, what a hardworking boy.

After hours travelling, we reached Xi'an. That day was sunny, but we had not realized that at first because we arrived earlier in the morning and took our school bus to school. The university was very beautiful and made me peaceful. I fell in love with it and looked forward to my four-year study.



聂江涛
NIE JIANGTAO
LANCE

My name is Nie Jiangtao. My English name is Lance. The origin of my name because the Yangtze River occurred a hundred years once the flood in July 1998, at that time, I was born. Chinese character "江" means River and "涛" means big waves. My grandfather hoped that I can move forward like a river and big waves.

I was born in Weinan. Maybe you never heard it but you must know Mont Hua. It is one of the famous Five Mountains in China. Mont Hua is located in my hometown. I lived in this place until I went to Xi'an to go to college. I attended senior middle school in Weinan named Weinan Senior School. It was founded in 2009, attracting excellent students although it is a really young school. Now, I still miss it. I miss my classmates, my teachers, and happy times we spent together.

Now, I'm a sophomore at Shaanxi Normal University. My major

is translation. However, my dream is not to be a translator. I'm crazy about Japanese culture because I can find in it a shadow of Chinese culture. I have been learning Japanese because I hope that one day I can work in Japan to feel the prosperity of Tokyo, to experience the history of Kyoto, and to see the Sakura blossoms of Nagano.

DAD'S LETTER

Dad will come back!
He got his father's letter. It said he might return during Spring Festival.

Chen Haoyu was 15 years old. Everyone said that he was a child without a father. His classmates laughed at him. Chen Haoyu would shout, "I have a dad! My dad is working in Australia!" And when he returned home, he always lay in front of his mother, crying.

The last time he saw his father was five years ago. His image had blurred. He had a box packed with letters from his father. He always wrote to his father when he was sad. When he missed him, he would open the box and read letters. His tears wet the letters. He studied very hard and was always No. 1 in his class because of his father's encouragement. Sometimes he also complained that why his dad did not come back.

He was looking forward to his arrival on Spring Festival. He studied harder than before because he wanted his father to be proud. Spring Festival was approaching. Haoyu was more excited.

One day, Haoyu went to his Chinese teacher Wang's home to send some presents about Spring Festival. To his shock, He inadvertently found letters which should be sent to his father on the bookshelf. He seemed to know something. He ran home crazily and kicked the door. "Do I have a dad? Why did I find my letters in teacher Wang's room? Give me the reason!" he asked, pointing to his mother and burst into tears. "Your...your dad died in a car accident when he was in Australia the second month. At that time, you were very young. I hope that you can grow up healthily and happily. I knew you like to write to your father. So I secretly put your letters out from the post office and to teacher Wang," His mother said heartbreakingly. After hearing them, Haoyu ran out, screaming. His mother fell unconscious.

His mother had liver cancer. Haoyu cried. He was on the verge of collapse. He held his mother's hand. "Yuyu, I'm sorry, I don't want to cheat you. I want you to be happy everyday. I love you! Your father also love you!" She said weakly.

Haoyu works harder than before. He knows he could only to do it because he wants to be admitted to China's best university. He wants his father and mother in heaven to be proud. He also wants to prove to those who have laughed at him. A person can be very strong even without a father and mother!

CHRISTMAS SONG

On Christmas night...

When Zhang Yuxin was close to the top floor of the building, she saw a boy standing there. Lin Yiyang had waited. She smiled and picked up her paces. When she was close to him, at this time, her ears entered beautiful music. She was so surprised that she covered her mouth and could say nothing. A splendid Christmas tree was coming into her gaze. Her boy was standing under the tree, playing the guitar, singing a Christmas song he wrote for her. Lin Yiyang stopped singing and said, "Are you willing to be with me as we strive together, later life?"

Lin Yiyang and Zhang Yuxin met on a party. When Lin Yiyang saw her, he fell in love with her at once. Yuxin was dancing so gracefully since she was good at dance. She had learnt it when she was 5 years old and had won a lot of dance competition awards. As one of the party's programs, she selected a Chinese traditional song with gracefully dancing. All of them were outstanding. She became the audience's focus. Yiyang's heart said, "Everything has changed. A beautiful butterfly flying! I want to be her boyfriend!"

The next day, he got Yuxin's Wechat from his roommate, Nie Chenyu, who was Yuxin's friend—Zhou Bing's high school classmate. Yiyang added Yuxin's Wechat quickly and sent a message without thinking, "Hi, Zhang Yuxin! This is Lin Yiyang, who majors in Chemistry. I don't know whether you remember that we have met each other on a party. When I met you the first time, I was utterly attracted. Could I become your boyfriend?" Yuxin replied, "Sorry, There is no denying that I can't. I don't know who are you! And I think you are so naïve!" But he had already predicted this result and he developed a careful plan.

He had asked Zhou Bing to give him Yuxin's schedule in order to put breakfast on her desk half an hour in advance. He left a note saying, "Be sure to eat it all! — Lin". He wanted to touch her. Yuxin was angry when seeing breakfast and note. She sent a message and deleted his Wechat. "Don't do this again! Please!"

Unyielding was Lin Yiyang's quality. He changed plan quickly

and decided to create romance. Singing songs he wrote was his hobby. He spent a week writing Everything Has Changed. One night he went to the girl's dormitory with guitar and put candles in the sharp of a heart with the help of dorm mates. After all the things had been ready he began to shout Yuxin's name in order to attract others. When Yuxin appeared, his classmates cheered and shouted, "Be together! Be together!" Yiyang was also full of energy and said smilingly, "Promise me, OK?" He was so confident.

However, she just stood expressionless. The next second shocked everyone. Yuxin put out all the candles and burst into tears!" I really, really, really can't understand why are you so stupid, so reckless, so unreasonable! I will never love you! I hate you! Leave my world with your tricks!" Later, she returned for her dorm room straightly.

Yuxin's words were like a sharp knife hurting his heart. Lin Yiyang was so sad and he realized that everything he had done confused Yuxin. With Zhou Bing's advice, he sent Yuxin a letter to express regret for his stupid actions. He changed and concentrated on study. He participated in many Chemistry contests, winning many prizes and got a scholarship. In his spare time, he was crazy about running and playing basketball.

Maybe something changed quietly...

The annual sports competition began. Lin Yiyang participated in the long jump, high jump, and 10 km. After gaining good results in the long jump and high jump, the 10 km was beginning.

The competition started! The athletes were like arrows and all the whole students were very excited and shouted, "Come on! Come on!"

The cheers filled the whole stadium.

Yuxin also shouted for Yiyang.

He looked very relaxed because of daily exercise. In the last mile, students became more excited and the cheering was louder. At this time, Lin Yiyang became the No. 1. He would be the champion. Yuxin was extremely happy! However, when Yiyang crossed the finish line, his nearby man who wanted to be the champion felled heavily. The students were shocked! This man was so painful maybe he was fractured. Yiyang ran for him right away when he saw it. Then Yiyang

carried him to the end. Everyone cheered and applauded Yiyang, Yuxin was also touched.

Yuxin found that she loved Yiyang gradually. She admired Yiyang's confidence, earnest, and bravery. She asked Zhou Bing for help and Zhou Bing maintained that Yuxin should follow her heart.

Another thing strengthened Yuxin's thinking. At noon in June, Yiyang was ready to go to cafeteria for lunch. The weather was so hot that he was sweating constantly. At this time, a girl who was walking in front of him fainted suddenly. Students walking on the road was shocked but they did not know what to do. Yiyang ran quickly, finding this girl's face pallid. He took out his kettle and gave her water. Later he carried her toward school clinic. Yuxin also witnessed the whole process. She was so shocked and moved.

From that day, Yuxin expected to meet him everyday, she wanted to communicate with him, she loved his good quality, especially his helpful. She wanted to be his girlfriend.

Yuxin added Yiyang's Wechat again, expressing her thinking seriously. She wanted to be as excellent as him, to strive with him. Yiyang also confessed to her.

After thinking seriously, Yuxin decide to promise him.

Thinking of this made Yuxin happy and moved.

She replied, "Yes. I'd love to,"

INHERIT TRADITIONAL CULTURE

Life is always full of surprise and unknown, you will never know what will happen at the next second. As for me, I am crazy about the traditional clothes—Han Chinese Clothing. I really had an unforgettable experience.

That day, I remembered, was the first time that I met Han Chinese Clothing in Daming Palace. There were many teenagers wearing the Chinese ancient clothes. I took it for granted that must be screening TV. However, When I approached them, to my surprise, there were no director, they just communicated merrily with each other. I was extremely curious! After I asked them and I knew all of them were the members of the club named Tongpao, dedicated to traditional culture. I joined them at once and became one of them. I knew about abundant knowledge about Han Chinese Clothing. We drank tea, singing traditional songs, and played I-go. How happy we were! I met many new friends who had similar hobbies with me. Nevertheless, the most significant thing is that I became one of them to inherit our traditional culture.

When it comes to traditional culture, I maintain that the foremost thing is not to observe it but inherit it. The experience is unforgettable, and I want to cherish it forever.



魏欣桐

WEI XINTONG
VIOLET

My name is Wei Xintong. I was born in Panjin, a small city in Liaoning Province on Christmas Eve nineteen years ago. I grew up in Panjin, which is a beautiful and clean city. My primary school, senior middle school and high school are in Panjin.

Before I came to the university, I had never left my hometown. When I was in high school, I never thought about I would go to a city far away from Panjin. Actually, if there was a college in Panjin I would not have come to Shaanxi Normal University. However, my parents wanted me to leave them and learn to be independent, so I came here, but after graduation, I still want to go home.

I am the only child in my family, I want to stay near my parents. In the future, I want to take part in the postgraduate entrance exams. If I am lucky, I will go to a college in Beijing, and change my major. Only learning English is not enough to find a good job. I want to learn more. I want to work and live in Dalian in the future, which is a beautiful seaside city in Liaoning Province.

A SURPRISING SPRING FESTIVAL

I had celebrated so many Spring Festivals, but I will never forget the Spring Festival which in 2014. That was really a special and surprising Spring Festival.

It was a sunny day. We drove to Shenyang to spend the Spring Festival with my grandparents. When we arrived at their home, most of our relatives had arrived. I hugged my grandparents, my uncle, and my aunt. Aunt had been pregnant for nine months. All of us eagerly anticipated the baby. The doctor said that it might be a girl. The baby grew slowly and safely in her Mather's belly. My uncle and aunt were happy. They want a girl.

After chatting, we began preparing dinner. According to Chinese traditional customs, we should have dumplings on the eve of the Spring Festival. Making dumplings had many work to do, so all of us went to the kitchen. Aunt was asked to rest out of the kitchen. The kitchen was a mess with vegetable and fruit on the floor. When we made dumplings, Aunt came into the kitchen for water. Suddenly, I heard her hitting the floor. She had tripped on packages of fruits. The small kitchen was full of noise at once. All of us were shocked!

Father calmed quickly and called an ambulance. As we waited for the ambulance anxiously, we talked to Aunt, trying to keep her conscious. The ambulance arrived in ten minutes and took Aunt to the hospital. Luckily, she and her baby were both safe.

Although there was nothing bad during that Spring Festival, I still hope the surprising Spring Festival like that never occurs again. The Spring Festival is just a special day. I hope all the people I love will be safe all the time.

Chinese students in high schools are burdened with the stress of study. Their teachers and parents have high expectation to them, making them emotional and irritable. In such case, love develops between boys and girls.

Wang Yi and Pan Xuan met in high school. They were in the same junior high school, but they did not know each other before. They regretted this when they were in a romantic relationship. But at that time, they were just strangers to each other who became deskmates.

Wang Yi was a very beautiful girl. No matter what kind of girl you like, you have to admit that she was pretty. But she did not study well. In fact, her father gave a lot of money to the school, so the school leaders moved her to a better class. Pan Xuan was the best student in this class. He was an ordinary boy. He had never fallen in love with anybody. What he thought about everyday was studying. He was surprised to have such a beautiful deskmate.

Their story began. At first, Pan Xuan thought that a student who spent money to come in this class would not study hard. To his surprise, she was very serious and finished all the homework by herself. Though Wang Yi always worked hard and tried her best to study, she still did not do well. She knew many students in this class look down on her because of her low scores. They thought students like her should not stay in this good class. She worked hard to catch up with and stayed up late to do her homework. However, she did not totally understand what the teachers were talking about. She did not get good grades on the first examination. She was last in her class. She was so dispirited that she cried.

Pan Xuan was shocked by Wang Yi's tears, but did not know how to comfort her. All he could do was to put his paper that had earned full marks and a note on her desk quietly. Wang Yi found the paper, felt embarrassed and grateful.

Time in high school passed quickly. There were many things to do. Pan Xuan and Wang Yi became closer and closer. Neither confessed love, but they understood each other. Predictably, their teachers and parents tried to prevent them from being together, but

they did not care. Pan Xuan helped Wang Yi's study every day. They studied together from dawn to night. Wang Yi did better and better in her study. They decided to go to a same university.

After the College Entrance Examination, they went to Yunnan together and had a good time there. When they came back, they got the exam score. Both had done extremely well, Pan Xuan got higher scores than Wang Yi. So they could not go to the same college. Pan Xuan went to Beijing and Wang Yi went to Shandong.

After they started university, they could not see each other often. College was new for them and they wanted to try many things that had not been able to do in high school. They chatted on the phone every day to share some interesting events in their life. When Pan Xuan visited Wang Yi, she was very happy and introduced him to her new friends. However, her friends told her that they thought Pan Xuan was not good for her. Wang Yi was very beautiful while Pan Xuan was very common. Wang Yi was a little angry but she thought they were right.

When they got into the second year, something changed. They both became very busy and could not continue chatting daily. They called each other only once a week. Gradually, Wang Yi adapted to life without Pan Xuan.

Then a boy pursued her actively. Although she did not admit to be his girlfriend, she often hung out with him.

In the winter holiday, they both returned home, and dated. Once, when they had lunch outside, Wang Yi left to go to the toilet. Pan Xuan found that her mobile phone screen lit up. A massage was displayed. He glanced at the phone, and what he saw shocked him, a photo of Wang Yi and a boy. They seemed close! He angrily asked Wang Yi the identity of that boy when she came back. Wang Yi was annoyed by the fact that Pan Xuan had infringed on her privacy. They had a big quarrel and blamed each other. They ended in a bad mood.

They did not contact each other for a long time. Wang Yi began a new relationship with a boy quickly. Pan Xuan regretted their separation and wanted to redeem their love, but his high school classmate told him that Wang Yi had a new boyfriend. He was very sad and no longer wanted to hear anything about Wang Yi.

In his third year, Pan Xuan went abroad to study. Wang Yi changed her boyfriend just like she changed clothes. Wang Yi and Pan

Xuan never contacted each other. Maybe they will meet someday in the future, maybe not.

They loved each other for years. When they were children, they believed that they would keep their love forever. Eventually they could not love each other when they did not stay together.

a different life. They were lovers but now they are strangers. They promised to be together forever but now nobody keeps it. Everything has changed but life is continuing. Everyone has his or her own life and goal. The only thing they remember is let bygones be bygones. Tomorrow is another day.

AN OLD LADY

This winter holiday, I met an old lady on my way from my hometown to Xi'an. It was not convenient to take a through train to Xi'an, so I needed to change trains in Beijing. When I was waiting outside the Beijing Station, I noticed that an old lady was looking at me. I did not know why so I smiled. Then she came to me and asked me if I could buy her a bottle of water. I was surprised because she did not look like a beggar. Then she told me that she was from a small village in Henan. She came to Beijing to visit her son, but her wallet was stolen on the train. She had waited her son in the Beijing Station for an hour, but her son was struggling in the traffic jam. She should take the medicine right now. Of course, I took her to a shop and bought her a bottle of water.

Although there are so many cheats in our society now, we should still keep kind-hearted. When that old lady asked help from others, many people believed that she must be a cheater and disregarded her. What if she really fell unconscious because she did not take her medicine on time? In a word, keeping kind-hearted and helping anybody needs help, this will make our society better and better.



陈亚男

CHEN YANAN
GRACE

My name is Chen Yanan, and my English name is Grace. Now I am a college student at Shaanxi Normal University, majoring in translation. I was born in Hailar, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region on 22 June 1995. Two years ago, I was graduated from Hailar Second Senior Middle School.

I want to improve my English on both examinations and in daily communication. This is my goal in college. I have a short-term mission, which is passing the TEM-4 and getting good grades.

I know I need to have a specialty. Whether I work or continue studying, I need to be qualified to seek higher positions. I am interested in media technology and I should read books related to media technology in English and acquire more knowledge. I can improve my English as well as have a specialty.

I hope to be a professional translator and lead a happy, peaceful life with my parents. Labor is a way of knowing. I know that it is not enough to just decide, only acting to practice hard can make our dreams come true.

TRAIN ADVENTURE

Lin Yue was a head nurse who worked in Central Hospital for years. She possessed professional expertise and worked hard. Last year, she worked until the day before Spring Festival.

The train station was teeming with multitudes of people. After getting her tickets and going through the security check, which both needed a long time, she finally boarded a train to her home.

She sat by the window, looked outside, and was attracted by the beautiful snow-scape. Everything was quiet and peaceful.

Suddenly, a sharp broadcast announced, "Emergency! A boy is conscious. Medical staff, please go to carriage 5 now. Thank you!"

A sense of responsibility drove Lin who decided to help. As she reached carriage 5, she saw the boy lying on the floor, trembling, and frothing at the mouth.

"Does he have epilepsy? " she asked.

"Yes," the boy's mother replied, anxious and nervous.

"Does anyone have a chopstick and a towel?" Lin Yue asked.

"Yes. Here," a passenger said and passed them to her.

Lin used the towel to wrap the chopstick and put the chopstick into the boy's mouth to prevent him from biting his tongue. As time passed, the boy was better than before. However, Lin did not leave. She cared for him all the time.

"Thank you so much. It is so kind of you. I am afraid to think about what terrible things might have happened without your help," the boy's mother said and held Lin's hands.

"It is my responsibility," she smiled.

About ten minutes later, the train stopped. The conductor got in touch with local hospital and got the boy to hospital.

Everything became quiet and peaceful again. Lin Yue felt a little tired, but she obtained the satisfaction and pleasure of helping people. Her duty is to heal the wounded and rescue the dying. She wished the boy recovered soon. It would be the best gift for her in Spring Festival.

Time flew, a new term began. A crowd of freshmen headed to Central University to enroll. Lin Yin, one of the freshmen who majored in computer science, came to the school by herself, happy and excited. Everything for this new comer was wonderful.

Fu Hai, Meng Yuan, Guan Lu, and some other seniors, were responsible for welcoming these freshmen. When Lin Yin came into the office to enroll, they were so delighted to see such a lovely girl in the school, especially in a major in which most students were boys.

Meng and Guan helped Lin carry her luggage. They talked and laughed until they reached her dormitory. They became friends. Lin was so grateful for their help. Once Guan glanced at the door of the dormitory building, he found a beautiful girl with long hair and shining eyes coming side. That graceful figure attracted his attention, stirred his heart, and lighted up his world as though a candle had been lit in a dark room.

Lin Yin entered dorm room 301. While cleaning, other three girls came, one of which was beautiful Xue Bai. They chatted expectantly about their new life.

One month later, the freshmen were gradually accustomed to college life.

The campus square was teeming with students. There were various students' clubs eager to recruit new members. Music clubs, English clubs, dance clubs and so on, were attractive to Lin and Xue.

Meng and Guan belonged to a basketball club. When they saw Lin and Xue, they waved and urged them to join the basketball club. The girls were not very interested. However, Meng and Guan did not give up and tried their best to persuade the girls how great it would be if they join the club.

"Playing basketball is beneficial for your health. We will teach you for free. You will make friends with a group of handsome guys in our club," Meng said.

"OK, then it's settled. We will join you," Lin and Xue replied.

The two boys were ecstatic.

The basketball club met once a week. In the process of playing basketball, Lin Yin's attitude towards basketball changed. She treated every exercise seriously, from which she gained a lot of pleasure. As she smiled, the sun fell on her like a light. It was a perfect moment.

Meng found himself attracted by this confident, lovely girl.

Guan also felt happy because he could see the goddess in his heart Xue every week.

Lin and her friends studied hard and walked around between the teaching building, library, canteen, and dormitory in a daily routine. One day, the school prepared to a model exhibition and told all the students to participate by designing their own model. Lin Yin and Meng Yuan did not miss this opportunity to demonstrate and improve themselves.

Fu Hai was famous for his intelligence and hardworking. He also joined it. He had won a lot of awards before.

After joining, they began to prepare. Fu Hai made a plane model. It was not finished, but it looked like a real plane.

On a Saturday afternoon, the day before the deadline, Fu decided to go to the classroom to complete the project. He put the model on the desk and then went to the bathroom. He never imagined in what happened when he left.

Lin Yin went to the classroom to study and found a plane model on the front desk.

"What an exquisite, vivid model!" She thought, holding it over her head.

Suddenly, she stumbled accidentally. The model flew out her hands and broke up to pieces.

At that moment, Fu walked in, stared at his model, and was shocked and irritated out of proportion to the occasion.

"I am so sorry. I did not do it on purpose," Lin apologized sincerely.

Fu picked up these pieces. Lin started to help him pick up them, but Fu pushed her away, exasperating her.

"How can a boy push a girl? You are so rude," she snapped.

"How can you take my model without permission and destroy it?" he glared at Lin.

"I apologized," Lin said.

"You know, I cannot now submit my model because of your carelessness," Fu replied.

They did not settle their disagreement and left. Their destiny changed from that moment.

Lin felt fire burning in her heart afterwards. However, she never thought Fu would come find her.

"I am sorry. I apologize for pushing you away. Despite my resentment, I should not hurt a girl," Fu said.

As soon as Lin heard this, she felt the cloud in her heart fade away.

"I also made a mistake. Let us reconcile,"

The two students then smiled and their eyes locked. Lin suddenly found his smile touched her heart as though she had experienced an electric shock.

Lin realized that she began to care about him, and was curious about what he was doing. She often asked him to study and have dinner together. Fu gradually fell in love with this lovely girl.

One day, when they were hanging out, they met Fu's high school classmates. They were all surprised to meet by coincidence. Fu's classmates were curious about the girl standing by him.

"Who is she?" They asked.

"She is my girlfriend, Lin Yin," Fu replied without hesitation, holding Lin tightly.

When Meng Yuan knew Lin and Fu's relationship, he was sad but he did not give up his affection to Lin. He decided to compete with Fu in the coming basketball game.

Fu and Meng would on behalf of their own classes. Lin Yin, Xue Bai and Guan Lu attended to cheer them on. The competition between the two boys was for the game results, it was also related to Lin Yin.

Fu Hai jumped and threw the basketball into the net. Great act! Fu's team won the game.

Meng congratulated, "Good job, my friend. Best wishes for you,"

"Thank you, my friend," Fu replied.

They smiled.

DRIVING TEST SURPRISES

During my last summer holiday, I decided to learn how to drive and attempted to get my driving license. I went to a driving school to enroll for the driving course.

Having finished all the enrollment work, I began to prepare for my first exam in driving. The first test was about how to drive safely and legally. I looked through the book and did exercises every day until the examination day. I was a little dull and bored. However, I was motivated by the belief of passing the examination, and I persisted.

I truly had an unforgettable experience on that day. My uncle and I thought that the testing location was not far from my home, so we set out somewhat late. Unfortunately, we were stuck in a traffic jam. We had no choice but to find another way that we were unfamiliar with. As the test time approached, we still searched for the right way and asked lots of passers-by to confirm our decisions. During that time, I was very concerned about being late and missing the test. Anyway, after one hour's driving, we finally reached the destination. I was even more delighted when I passed the examination.

I am truly grateful to warm-hearted people who help us. And after this experience, I realize that we'd better deal with matters ahead of time in case of the unexpected.



雷煦蕊
LEI XURUI
HOLLY

I am Lei Xurui and my English name is Holly. I was born March 29, 1997. And I am a Xi'an native. I am lucky to have been born and live in such a famous historic cultural city. I graduated from Xi'an No. 3 Middle School which has my haunting memory.

In the short term, what I most hope is to pass the TEM-4 with excellence. It is not only an important English test to prove our ability of English but also a good chance for us to reinforce what we learned. I think we should set out to prepare now. In the long term, I want to take part in postgraduate entrance exams. Finding a good job is difficult for a student who only has a bachelor's degree.

I hope to enter the Foreign Affairs Department as a civil servant in the future. Maybe somebody thinks this is boring and tedious, but I don't think so. My grandfather and my father are both civil servants. I learn a lot from them and understand the responsibility of civil servants. This job fits my character well. However, I know that I need to make greater efforts to realize my hope.

HOME HARBOR

Spring Festival was drawing near. The streets at night were filled with jubilant people, busy preparing for family reunions. Faces were filled with festival joy, except Lei Lei's face.

Lei Lei was an ophthalmologist in a governmental hospital. This week he had been suspended because of a medical accident. Lei Lei had made three operations and was so tired that he made a small mistake in surgery. Although he remedied it, he forgot to record it on his operative report. This resulted in a complication for the patient.

Lei Lei thought about this and he felt guilty, depressed, repentant, and scared. He was sorry for the patient, and worried about his future. He was his parents' pride. It was hard to imagine what they would do if they heard he might lose his job. Lei Lei decided not to go home for Spring Festival.

He had no idea that his parents knew about it. One of his relatives with an eye problem had come to see him for help and was told of Lei Lei's suspension. The relative then informed Lei Lei's parents. Different from what he thought, Lei Lei's parents did not get mad. They cared more about their son's feeling than the achievement. They were worried about Lei Lei and called him to go home. Finally, Lei Lei agreed.

After arriving home, Lei Lei's parents prepared a huge dinner. They didn't want to exert pressure on him and tried their best to comfort him. This deeply touched Lei Lei. He realized he should not avoid his parents when he faced difficulties. In any case, home was always a refuge where he could find warmth and courage.

After Spring Festival, Lei Lei embarked on his life's journey with renewed confidence.

UNWORTHY LOVE

After six years, she saw him again. He was seated with a little boy who looked like him. He was peeling an orange. At first, he did not recognize her. She came towards him. She smiled. He frowned. He closed his eyes an instant, and then opened them in surprise. He put down the banana he was holding and pushed back his chair.

"Yi Yi!" he exclaimed. "Long time no see, how have you been?"

"Not bad," she replied, "Yeah, He Guan. How time was gone! It has been a long time,"...

In the year they were both eighteen, Yi Yi had received an acceptance letter from Central University. When she boarded a train with her parents to the University, she did not do anything but stare at the outside of the train window. She felt nervous. It was the first time for her to live alone in an unfamiliar city. But she also was excited. She would not hear her parents' nagging.

In high school Yi Yi's teacher had told her she would be free and could do anything she wanted when she became a college student. Now, she had the freedom she had earnestly longed for.

"Excuse me, please let me pass,"

Someone was interrupting her thoughts. A handsome young man stood before her.

"Do you need help?" Yi Yi's father said.

"No, thanks," the young man said, while stowing his luggage.

"You are a student, right?" Yi Yi's father asked.

"Yes," he replied, "I am a freshman from Central University,"

"What a coincidence!" Yi Yi's mother said. "My daughter is, too,"

"Really?" the man asked, "What is your name?"

"Yi Yi," She answered.

"I am He Guan. My major is sports. How about you?" He Guan asked.

"I major in Chinese," Yi Yi said.

"So we are not on the same campus. What a pity," He Guan said.

"How do you know that?" Yi Yi wondered.

"From the Internet. Did you join the QQ group of freshmen?" he

said.

"No," Yi Yi answered.

"It doesn't matter. I can give you our group number and help you join it," Alex said.

"Thanks a lot," Daisy replied and thought He Guan was warm hearted. Her anxiety for her unknown life gradually faded as she chatted with He Guan. The train soon arrived at the station.

As Yi Yi and He Guan walked out of the station, He Guan said, "I am on the west campus. Wish you well! Goodbye!"

"Goodbye, He Guan," Yi Yi said little disappointed.

"If only I could see him again," Yi Yi thought.

A month after the term began, everything was going well. Yi Yi met her new classmates and teachers. They were all kind. But one thing made her upset—her parents' departure. Yi Yi had never been away from her parents, so it was inevitable for her to feel homesick. Her roommates were both local people, so Yi Yi was often alone on weekends.

Yi Yi heard that The Students' Union would hold a party to welcome the freshmen. She had learned dancing since childhood, signed up for a dance presentation and rehearsed every weekend.

The day at the party, Yi Yi began preparing in the morning. She made up, changed into her dance clothes, and rehearsed. Everybody regarded this party as important. Yi Yi felt a little nervous.

Someone called, "Yi Yi, come here! I cannot find your dance background music," It was the girl in charge of background music.

"I copied it to your computer," Yi Yi replied.

"The party is about to begin. Do you have a duplicate?" the girl asked.

"No!" Yi Yi replied desperately as her heart sank.

"What's wrong?" a boy asked.

Yi Yi looked up and found it was He Guan! "Why does he always appear when I have difficulties," Yi Yi said in the heart.

"Yi Yi cannot find her background music," the girl said.

"Yi Yi! It is you! We meet again. Do not worry. I'll check," He Guan said and examined the files and pressed some keys.

Yi Yi set her mind at rest when she saw He Guan.

A few moments later, He Guan said "It is OK. Are you going to

dance at the party?"

He Guan nodded and gave He Guan a big smile. That night, Yi Yi's presentation was quite a success, Everybody was impressed by her performance, including He Guan.

That night, He Guan became Yi Yi's boyfriend.

Two years later, they were both junior students. Passion has exhausted. He Guan was more interested in computer game than Yi Yi. He did not think Yi Yi was gentle and considerate. He thought she was clingy and used to relying on him. He was fed up.

Yi Yi had become accustomed to depending on him and could not imagine life without him. To keep the relationship, Yi Yi tried to learn to play computer game. She even stayed up late just to help He Guan passing the level in the game. She thought what she did might help them get back together. Because she spent too much time on game, Yi Yi then had less time to study. She failed tests and received academic warnings. She would drop out if she failed another test.

Yi Yi panicked and asked He Guan for help.

But He Guan was bored and ignored her. Yi Yi have skipped too many classes and it was difficult for her to catch up within a short time. She finally considered bringing cheat sheet to pass the exam. Unfortunately, Yi Yi got caught cheating on the test and was expelled.

He Guan then broke up with her.

Yi Yi returned home and told her parents everything. She regretted hurting her parents' heart. She locked herself in her room and dared not see anyone. She thought everybody were laughing at her.

Seeing their daughter's pain, Yi Yi's parents talked to her and encouraged her to snap out of it. Yi Yi knew she could not hurt her parents' feeling again, so she went back to high school and took the college entrance examination again.

When Yi Yi looked back the absurd period, she said, "I paid the price for wasting my youth and understood the importance of self-reliance. It was totally an unworthy love,"

HELPING OTHERS CAN BRING HAPPINESS

If you light a lamp for somebody, it will also brighten your path. When we lift up people, we are likewise lifted.

Last Sunday, as I was strolling in the street, I found a wallet that contained an identity card, bank cards, and two student cards. I knew that these things were extremely important for the owner and they must be warned. From the identity card, I found it that the owner was a student studying journalism and communication in Huazhong University of Science and Technology. What a coincidence! It was the college where one of my high school classmates studied! I contacted my friend and let him help me to find the owner on WeChat. Luckily, I found that girl, she told me a thief had stolen her wallet when she visited Xi'an. She was surprised and grateful to my help. I sent the wallet to her by express mail and reminded her to pay attention to her personal belongings.

I think it was meaningful to help her find the wallet. Helping others bring happiness.



陈嘉碧

CHEN JIABI
LIA

My Chinese name is Chen Jiabi, and my English name is Lia. I was born in Xi'an city, the capital of Shaanxi Province, which is also famous for it was the core of The Silk Road. I have lived here since I was born on July 20, 1997. My home is near Anding Gate, which is west of the Bell Tower. I attended a senior middle school which near my home, I often took 15 minutes to walk there.

When I was in high school I was so ignorant that I did not care about my future. I was just studying, intending to attend a great university, but forgot about the most crucial point which related to my career, my future. I regret that now. As a translation major, the most important thing is to be certified. The higher level my English is, the better job I can find. I will expend more than half of my energy on preparing for tests. On the other hand, I also think specialization in one particular field is critical. I need to figure out that filed soon. I wish I can realize my goal soon and meanwhile learn more about foreign countries and English.

A DANGEROUS MOMENT

With snow flying outside the house, today is the Spring Festival. Wang Ming's family were busy from the morning. But Wang Ming wasn't here. He is a policeman who is busy for catching criminals. He got news that criminals who they have been spying on for a long time are preparing to drug trafficking with a woman in Wushan which is Wang Ming's precinct. Fighting to stay awake, he began to arrange the police into their positions, waiting for the best moment to catch them. On the other side, his family were preparing a hearty dinner. They were preparing cold dishes, fried fish, boiled beef and mutton, and expecting him to come back in time as he told them.

After another cold, simple, late lunch, Wang Ming felt pain from his stomach, but he ignored it. Because suspects were moving from their positions. So they would possibly contact each other to close the deal. As Wang Ming expected, they phoned that woman and decided to make the deal on a bridge. However, Wang Ming knows what these criminals were thinking. Close the deal at that bridge was a fake. Not surprisingly, they met each other in a park where was opposite from that bridge. Wang Ming was in there, ready to catch them, but he was stabbed by a suspect with a knife.

It's like a bolt from the blue, he was soon sent to the hospital, and luckily be saved. All his relatives and colleges came to visit him but they can't all stay in hospital. So just his wife and his father accompanied with him, but with a bowl of warm soup and some delicious, well cooked dishes are enough for him, a tired, painful worker. And due to this accident the criminal who hurt Wang Ming got felony, others still under the investigation.

STRANGE STUDENT NEAR ME

So...here are books Li Lei didn't took away. Please give him these books, thank you Wang Mei!" said the counselor.

With no expression, Wang Mei took the books and said "okay. Is these all?"

"Oh, yes, you can leave now. Thank you again," said the counselor. Then Wang Mei left the office, wondering why the teacher chose her to take the books. "Waste my time!" Wang Mei murmured angrily.

Even though they were classmates, but Wang Mei could seldom notice Li Lei because he sometimes absent. When she was about to give the books to Li Lei before class, he didn't show up again. She then tried to give the books to his roommates but they all said they were busy and wouldn't go back to the dormitory room until night.

"Wang Mei, everyone says Li Lei is a weird guy. Why are you giving him the books?" Li Yue asked. She was a cute, fashionable girl who was mad about joining activities. They used to be neighbors. Li Yue moved away when they graduated from primary school. They just contacted each other through We Chat.

"I must give him, even though it's troublesome," Wang Mei said and phoned Li Lei. Unexpectedly, he replied immediately, "Yes? What's the matter?"

"Hi, this is Wang Mei, your classmate. I have some of your book. Can you come to the canteen to get them?"

"Ah! Yes. Of course. I'll be there in ten minutes, Please wait for me. Thanks a lot!" Li Lei replied quickly.

A couple of days later. "Ah. Wang Mei, there you are. Do you know what happens when zinc reacts with manganese? Can you show me the way to the next class? Oh, great, I will just follow you now, and back to that question..." said Li Lei as though he was talking with his friend.

Wang Mei was too shocked to say a word. She then walked away. However, Li Lei wouldn't go away. When it was dinner time he was still with Wang Mei. Which made her gone to crazy, she fondly asked, "Why do you keep talking to me? I'm busy!"

Suddenly he began to smile, "Sorry, I thought you are willing to be my first school friend,"

"So your friends are all office workers?" said Wang Mei curiously.

"No, they are unemployed people. I usually pay them money to surf the Internet or go to places like karaoke," said Li Lei.

"That's not what a friend should do," Wang Mei said, and about to leave.

"Are you going to leave? Please let me pay, I know how much I bothered you today," said Li Lei.

"I'll pay my meal by myself, because that's what a friend should do. You shouldn't treat those people as friends. I'll be your friend if you want," Wang Mei in a way that she never had before.

After they became friends, Wang Mei helped Li Lei solve problems with classmates and others. Li Lei really liked her, but he didn't know how to express it. He was afraid another boy might steal Wang Mei from him. So he was just like a piece of gum, and leaves Wang Mei until she went to her dorm.

Half through their second semester, they needed to start preparation for the school Anniversary Ceremony. "Every class needs to hand in your application before Friday. Think carefully about this anniversary. If I think your application is inappropriate, I will not give you a pass. OK, students can go now. Monitors, please come here," said the counselor. All the students were excited because they would have a three-day holiday. Wang Mei's class decided to open a cafe. It was easier than other shop as a way of participating.

On the last day of the school anniversary, "Wang Mei let's go to the other shops for some fun! Hey, is a band! Come on!" said Li Lei.

"If you cannot be quiet, I will kick you. I mean it!" said Wang Mei. She was tired because of her work in the coffee shop.

"Wang Mei, there will be a fireworks display in the night. Can we see it together?" Li Lei said.

"Let me think, I am not sure," said Wang Mei.

"Come on! Not every student at Central University can see it. It will finish before 9.30, I've already checked," said Li Lei.

While they were trying to go up to the teaching building to have a good view, the fireworks started. A long silence between them

followed Li Lei said, "Wang Mei I have something to say. Please let me say it. I think I like you,"

"...It's my pleasure, you are great,"

"no, not that. I mean I love you," then he looked straight in her eyes. They were as dark as if the sea hid inside it. "So beautiful, If this is not love, then what is it?" he thought.

"Well...then thank you for loving me. The fireworks are over mostly. I need to go," she said.

"Listen Wang Mei, there's a competition I need to go to otherwise my father won't let me go to college anymore. If that happens I will lose you. And I don't want it. I want your answer. When I come back, I will contact you as soon as possible. Please, please think about it. Will you give me a reply?" Li Lei said sincerely.

"OK, I will think about it. So... see you then," said Wang Mei and turned away.

When she got to her dorm room, she found Li Yue. "Good evening Wang Mei! What happened! Your face is red. Have you got a fever?" said Li Yue.

"No, I'm OK, fine. Why are you still awake? It's ten pm already,"

"Because I just watched that firework display. By the way, what did Li Lei tell you? I was near and saw you run away from him. Is anything wrong?" said Li Yue.

"Run away? Impossible I just walked a little fast," said Wang Mei, trying to avoid this question.

"Oh, don't interrupt! What happened?"

"He said he likes me. What can I do Li Yue?"

With a burst of laughter Li Yue said, "Dear Wang Mei, just follow your heart. It's no big deal to refuse him. Go wash up and rest. You can think about it tomorrow,"

When Li Lei was left for his competition, no one accompanied Wang Mei. No one needed her to solve easy daily problems. Wang Mei felt a little lonely, a new feeling. "Am I missing him? I can't believe it!" she thought. Suddenly she remembered Li Yue once told her that she had become more friendly than before. Maybe it was because Li Lei who had helped her. She realized that she loved him. What she wanted to do now was tell him that she loved him just like he loved her.

A few days later, which birds were warbling and sun ray shone

through the leaves. Wang Mei was wondered if Li Lei would return soon, walking out the teaching building. Li Lei stood just across the street. She walked with shining dark eyes towards him. Their eyes met.

"Nice to see you, Li Lei," said Wang Mei

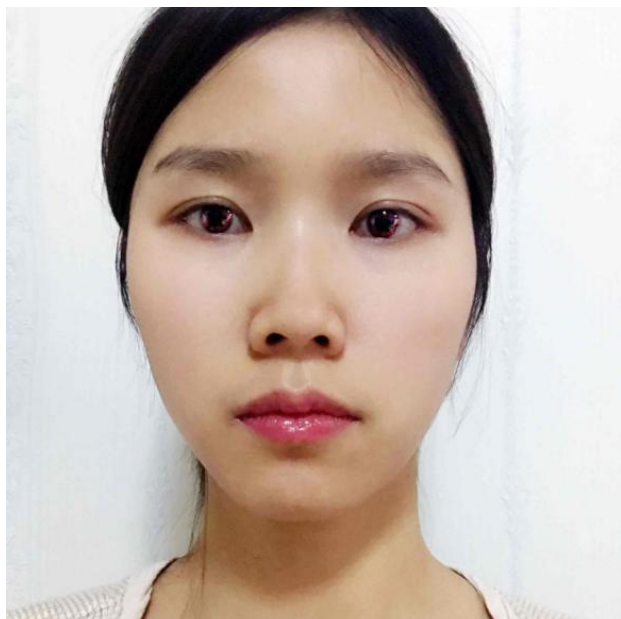
"I miss you, Wang Mei,"

"I miss you too,"

MY FIRST YEAR IN COLLEGE

Before I go to college, I was just a normal student who study many courses every day just for attend a better university. Like many other high school students. However, when I became a college student, I found it is not that easy to be a good grade student as in high school. The first semester in college was easy and full of fun, we had a lot of activities to join in, and we didn't have much courses. As a result of this way in college, I actually learned some social skills, but on the other hand my final grades was not a very satisfied score.

As I am a sophomore now, I guess I have a deeper reflect on college than I was a freshman. When in the first year, I really thought college should be a place where I can relax because of the stress in high school. But, now, I realized college time is a period that may give me more stress than high school. I have to take a serious attitude to every lessons I attend in, after the class I have many works to do. Besides my study, I need to spend time in clean and other chores. While I came to realize this point, I understand why people always miss their childhood. College can be a time of tired yet meaningful, I wish I can learn more things in my next three years.



黎淑海

Li Shuhai
ARABELLA

My Chinese name is Li Shuhai. My English name is Arabella, and I was born 19 July 1997 in Zhongsha Town, Guiping City, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Although is not prosperous, it is beautiful with forests, rivers, clean air, and many wild birds. I lived there and was raised by my grandfather until 2002, when my parents took me to Guangdong Province for education. I thus began the life in a big city and realized how colorful the world is outside the mountains. I returned my hometown when I finished primary school because students from other provinces were not allowed to attend the high school entrance examination.

In 2012, I attended senior middle school in Guiping City, Guangxi Autonomous Region. At a school that has a long history and is famous for its high-quality teaching. In future, I want to work as a writer, who write novels and short stories, and get married before I am thirty.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Snow mixed with rain fell. Nothing but darkness outside the car. Liu Qiang turned on the radio. It featured joyful New Year songs and programs. He was driving on a slushy countryside road. His home has still two hours away. He promised his parents and relatives to reach home before Spring Festival. His parents were probably preparing delicious food in kitchen, looking forward to his return. An old woman suddenly appeared on the road. He hadn't noticed her. He sharply braked but failed to stop in time. The poor woman was too frightened to move. His car knocked her down, and after a muffled voice, all was still.

He got out the car and walked to the roadside. Rags, seriously injured, she lay in mud. A large sack full of plastic bottles lay besides her. Liu Qiang lit a cigarette with trembling hands, trying to calm down.

He had to decide at to send her to hospital or flee. There were neither cameras nor witnesses around. She was a scavenger perhaps abandoned by her children. Taking responsibility for this accident might ruin all his endeavors over the years, from a country-bred boy he had become a lawyer in a big city. Thinking of his pregnant wife, and his old parents, he finally made a decision.

Fireworks lit up the sky.

GOD'S MISCHIEF

Do you have circles made up of friends during your college time? For me the answer is "Of course," Although we are different, it does not affect our friendship. Being real friends is what we dream of. One of our friends is handsome Ji Ming. He is the only boy accepted into our circle of 18 girls, because he can be an excellent bromeo to girls. He listens. He is very considerate, and thoughtful. We all share our little secrets with him, and look for his advice before dating our boyfriends.

Time goes on and we wonder why he gets along well with everyone in the circle. It seems that he enjoys only making friends with girls rather than looking for a girlfriend among them. Some think he is gay, because he does not chase girls around him even if there are so many chances. However, what does this matter? We like him and have not realized that he loves Chen Lin until he is fed up with rumors and tells us this truth when she is absent. Chen is the key person in our group. She is a beautiful girl who has a pretty face and is tall and slim. Chen has been chased by several boys since coming to university. It bothers her instead of bringing fun, so she turns them down.

Ji decides to start with being her friend. When the final examination comes, he gets up early to occupy a library seat for Chen. He remembers her birthday and is the first to say "Happy birthday!"

Chen feels ill during her period. She receives warm concern and a cup of hot water with brown sugar from Ji. With such care and companionship, Ji becomes her closest friend. She trusts Ji increasingly.

Ji cares for Chen. His blushing and awkwardness when he is with Chen, and his special Christmas gift for Chen, which are so obvious. One gift is tied in a heart shape carefully with a ribbon, while others are simply tied. As sensitive girls, we all notice these details. As his friends, we enjoy his care while we don't know Chen is the reason he approaches us. Thus, of course we are angry with being cheated by Ji. However, at the same time, what deeply moves us he has done for Chen, and we don't want to see Ji lose her. So we forgive Ji and promise to keep the secret together.

There is a change when Chen whispers some shy words to Ji.

We are curious about what she says. "She just asked me out at night and wanted to tell me something!" says Ji excitedly. We are happy for him, because it seems certain Chen will confess her love. If two people who have been friends suddenly let the wall between them fall, this moment of oneness is an exhilarating experience!

To witness this exciting moment, we manage to hide ourselves around the appointed place at the center of school garden.

Handsome Ji arrives ahead of time and waits nervously on a bench.

Chen shows up thereafter, dressed in a white skirt, wearing a pair of pearly shoes. She smiles when she finds him and sits by him.

"Nice skirt," Ji says. "You look great,"

"Thank you. It's brand-new. I like it too," Chen says and smiles. Ji says, "So...you said you have something to tell me. What is it?"

"I am in love with somebody," Chen replies gently. "I used to hide my real heart because of fear, but I should accept the truth that I love girls not the opposite sex,"

Ji stands up suddenly. We can see his pale anguished face.

We are deeply shocked.

After a few seconds, Ji says, "You love girls, and you are a les..."

"Yes, Wang Xue. We decided to keep our relationship. I know you love me, and I am really sorry,"

Ji soon leaves our circle. We miss the days he spent with us. We miss the sweet boy and his considerate patient behavior. He may never learn that a few girls in our circle were in love with him.

How wonderful it is that who you love loves you. Sometimes you dare not say, "I love you," So you become their friend. Unfortunately, you become real friends finally. Destiny is always wayward. We must accept that. Even so, love will come to us if we never give up the ability to love someone.

MY FIRST LOVE

When I was fourteen years old, I had a crush for a boy who was my first feeling of love and affection. He was the most handsome boy in our class, and very clever and funny, which attracted me a lot.

I felt I had a heart attack during my first encounter. The moment we had eye contact, he instantly sowed the seeds of love in my heart and magnetically attracted my heart and soul. From then on, I began to have a soft spot in my heart for the opposite sex, I could not explain why I loved him and I completely kept him in the dark about it. I wanted to keep it a secret forever. What mysterious, inconceivable behavior!

How could he is the only image rising in my mind? It seemed that I saw nothing but his smile and heard nothing but his voice. I wrote the love letter and amended it repeatedly, but dared not to send. I could not understand why the image of the smiling boy kept appearing in my mind, so that I could not concentrate on my studies and could no longer live a life free of anxiety and care.

I was completely occupied with thoughts of him. I in no mood to do anything, nor was I able to. Whether in class or home, walking, sitting, asleep, or awake, I could never banish him from my mind. In short, I just could not help thinking of him. I failed to concentrate when I listen to a talk or read a book, and also failed in the middle exam.

I managed to let this crazy feeling go with my teacher's help, whose advice enlightened me and I realized that the point to feel relieved is not suppressing my feeling but saying it. I felt better when I finally asked him bravely if he wanted to be my friend and his answer was, "Of course!"

We encouraged each other to study hard, discussing homework like any friends did. Time went by and my puppy love faded away involuntarily.